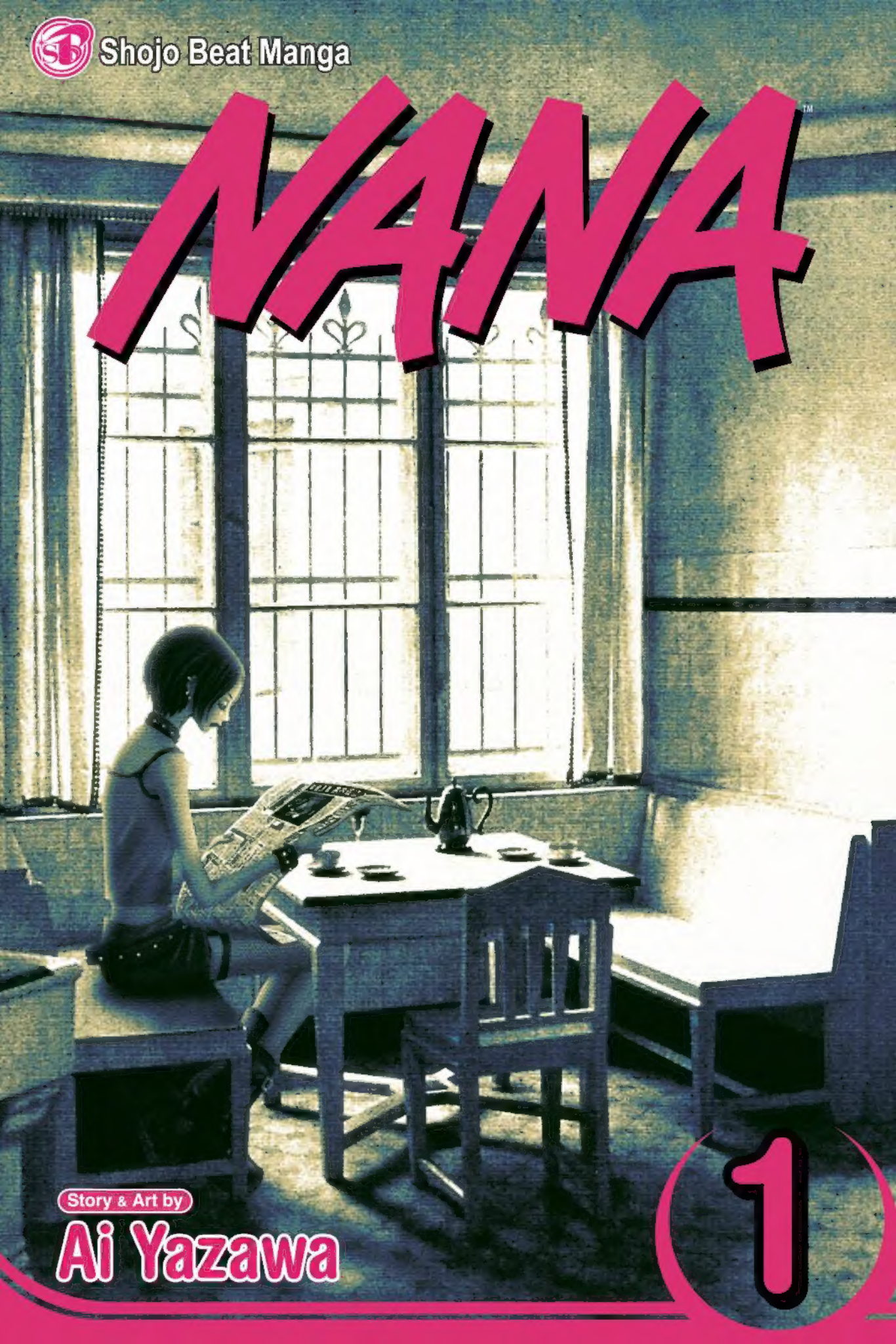
Shojo Beat Manga
NANA
Story & Art by
Ai Yazawa
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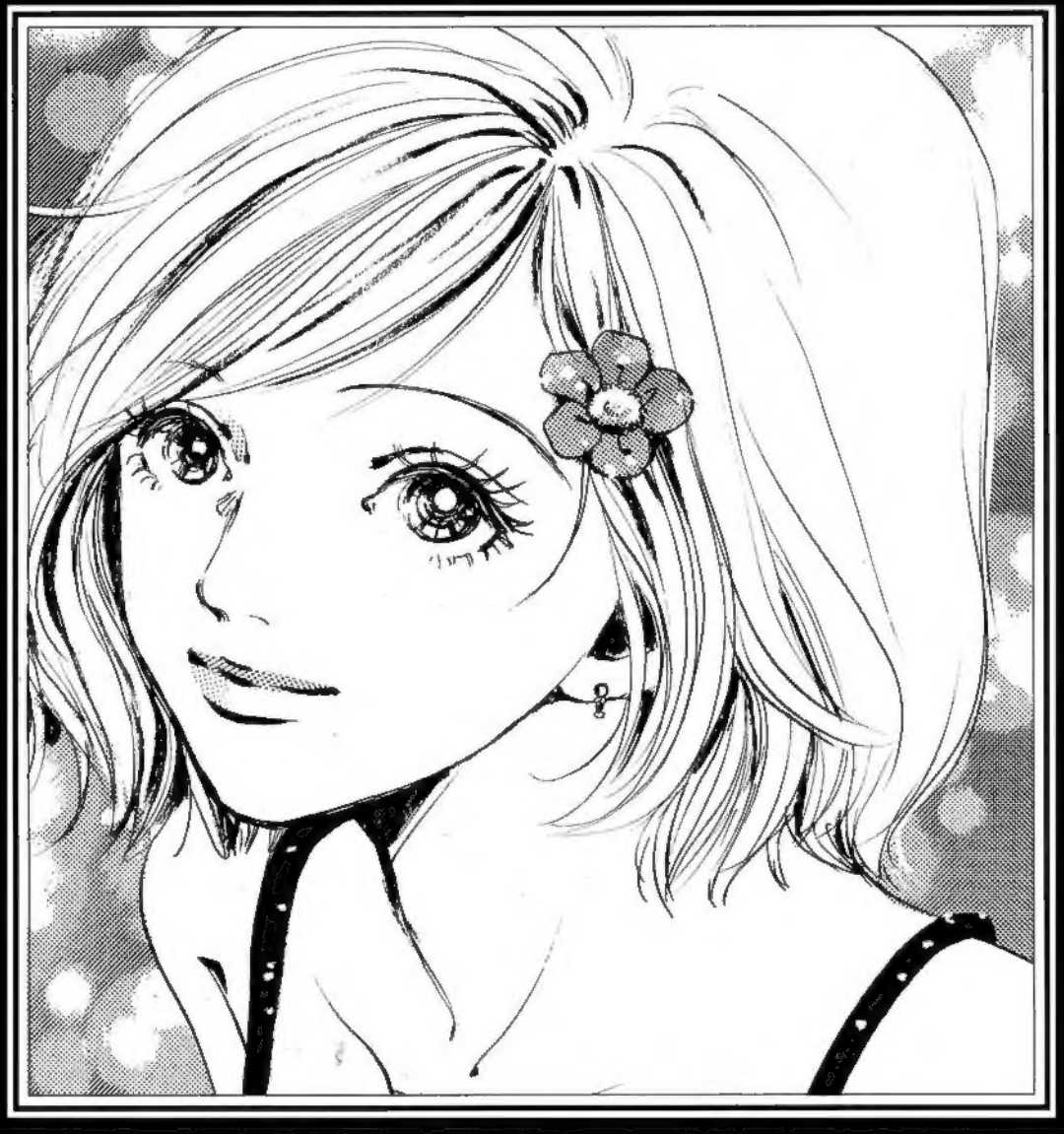
Shojo Beat

NANA Vol. 1



Story & Art by Ai Yazawa

NANA

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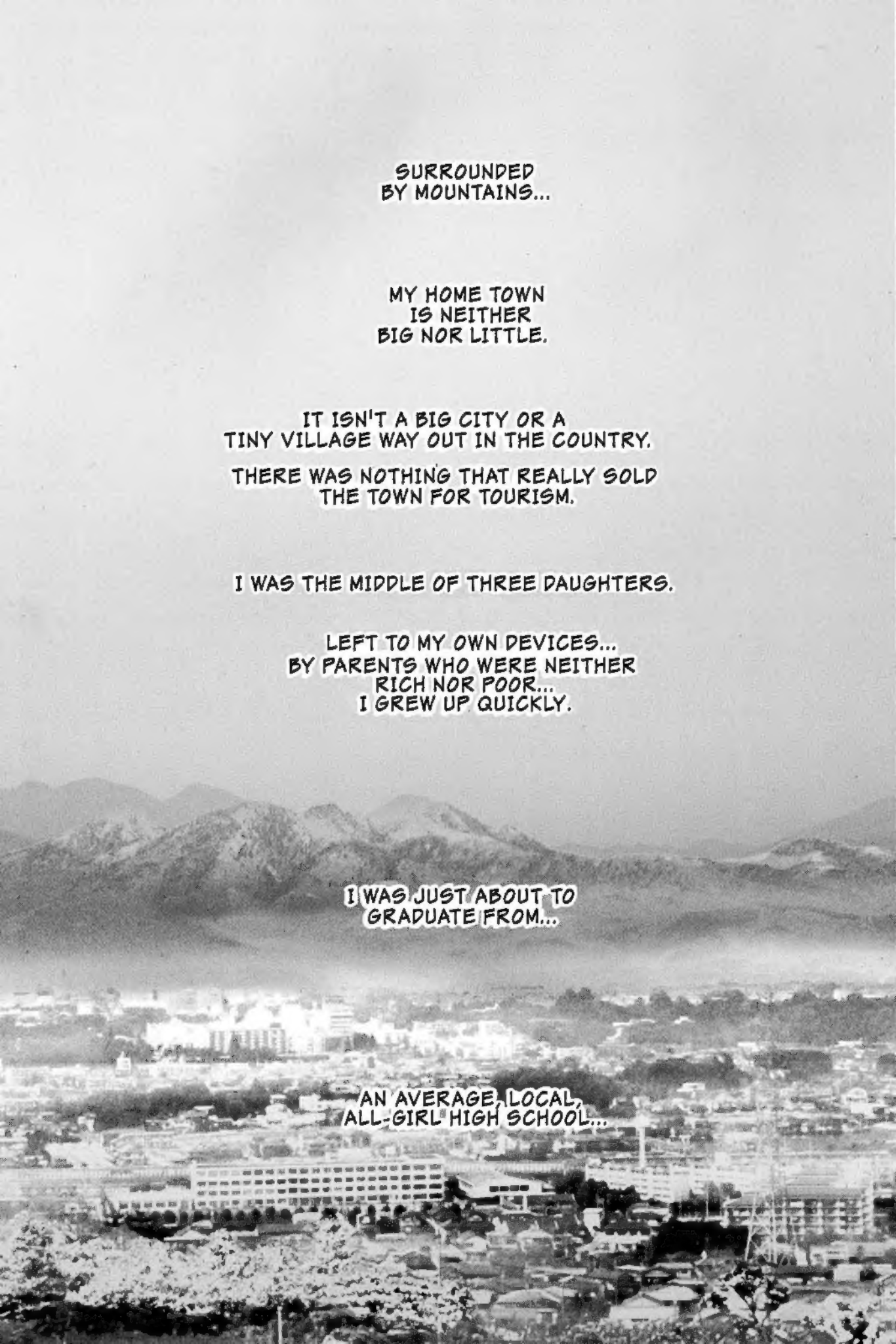

SURROUNDED
BY MOUNTAINS...
MY HOME TOWN
IS NEITHER
BIG NOR LITTLE.
IT ISN'T A BIG CITY OR A
TINY VILLAGE WAY OUT IN THE COUNTRY.
THERE WAS NOTHING THAT REALLY SOLD
THE TOWN FOR TOURISM.
I WAS THE MIDDLE OF THREE DAUGHTERS.
LEFT TO MY OWN DEVICES...
BY PARENTS WHO WERE NEITHER
RICH NOR POOR...
I GREW UP QUICKLY.
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO
GRADUATE FROM...
AN AVERAGE, LOCAL,
ALL-GIRL HIGH SCHOOL...

NANA
ナナ

TOKYO?
FFTT
UH-HUH.
STARTING NEXT WEEK.

I HATE THIS!!
I...
...A TRANS-FER.
YOU MEAN THIS ISN'T A BUSINESS TRIP, BUT A...?
HANG ON A SEC...
WELL, I HAVE TO SAY IT'S A WELCOME CHANGE IN THIS ERA OF CORPORATE RESTRUC-TURING.
WHAT A PAIN.
THE MAIN OFFICE IN TOKYO JUST TRANS-FERRED ME ALL OF A SUDDEN.
BUT WAIT!
TOKYO'S ONLY TWO HOURS AWAY BY BULLET TRAIN.
drip drip
IF I WANTED TO, I COULD EASILY SEE HIM.
THIS ISN'T THE MID-DLE AGES...
BUT IT'S WORK, SO WHAT CAN I DO...?
NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE YOU ANYMORE, NANA.
IT'S GOING TO BE LONELY...
BESIDES, WE DON'T SEE EACH OTHER VERY OFTEN ANYWAY, SO...
VROOM
THANK YOU.
IT'S ALL BEEN GREAT, HANGING OUT WITH YOU.

THAT WAS IN MARCH OF 1999 ...
... FOUR MONTHS BEFORE JULY.
THE DEMON LORD OF TERROR SOUGHT ME OUT AND CAME CRASHING DOWN.
HOTEL Tiffany
OUT

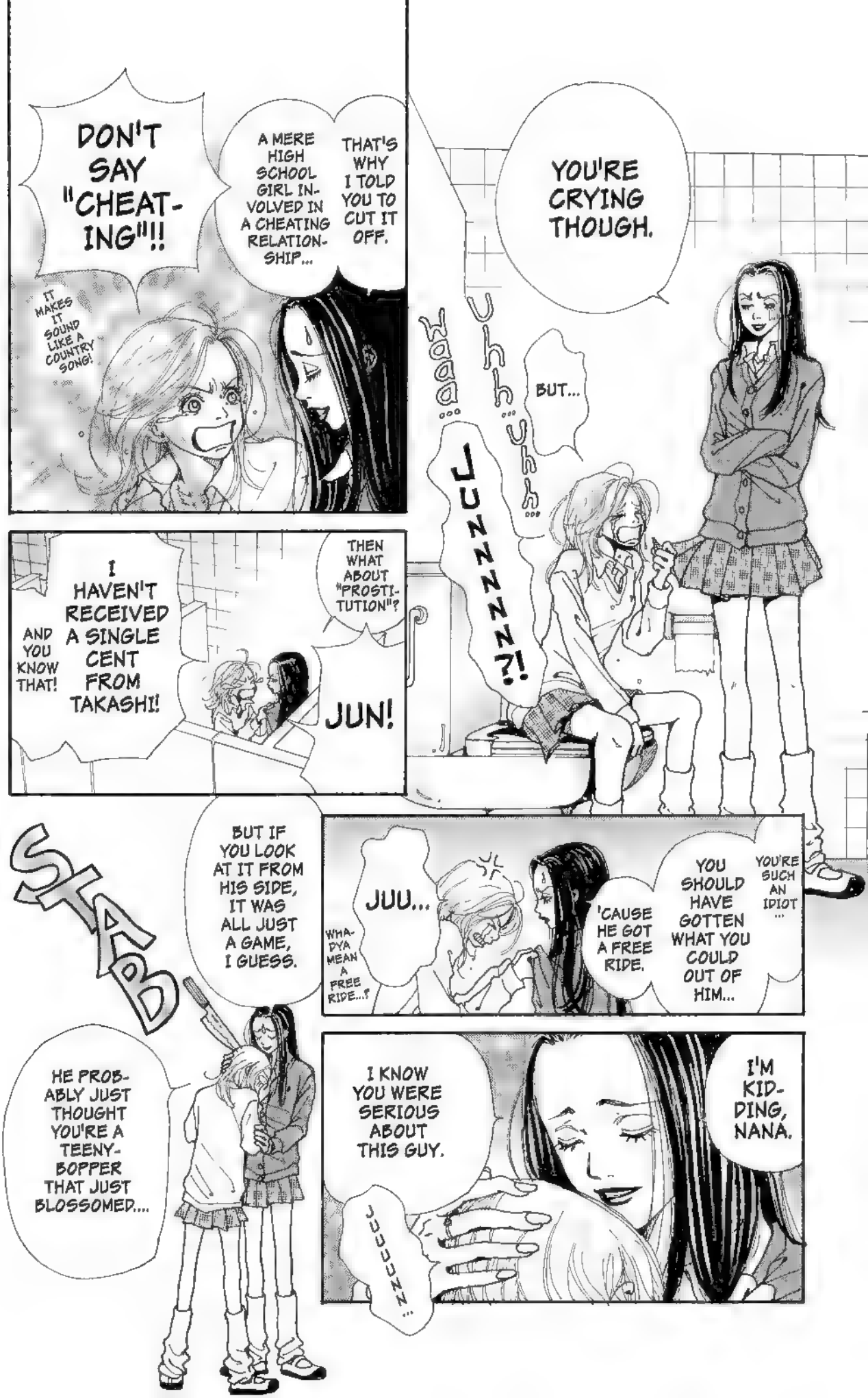
I AL-READY KNEW ...

THAT THIS RELATION-SHIP DIDN'T HAVE A FUTURE.

BUT TO END SO SUD-DEN-LY?

SO CARE-LESS-LY?

IT WAS POINT-LESS TO SHED ANY TEARS.


DON'T SAY "CHEATING"!!
IT MAKES IT SOUND LIKE A COUNTRY SONG!
A MERE HIGH SCHOOL GIRL INVOLVED IN A CHEATING RELATIONSHIP...
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO CUT IT OFF.
YOU'RE CRYING THOUGH.
BUT...
Uhh...uhh...
Waaa...
JUNNNNN?!
I HAVEN'T RECEIVED A SINGLE CENT FROM TAKASHI!
AND YOU KNOW THAT!
THEN WHAT ABOUT "PROSTITUTION"?
JUN!
JUU...
WHA-DYA MEAN A FREE RIDE...?
'CAUSE HE GOT A FREE RIDE.
YOU SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN WHAT YOU COULD OUT OF HIM...
YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT...
I KNOW YOU WERE SERIOUS ABOUT THIS GUY.
I'M KIDDING, NANA.
NNNNNN...
STAB
BUT IF YOU LOOK AT IT FROM HIS SIDE, IT WAS ALL JUST A GAME, I GUESS.
HE PROBABLY JUST THOUGHT YOU'RE A TEENY-BOPPER THAT JUST BLOSSOMED....

TEENY-BOPPER?!
AND WHADYA MEAN "BLOSSOMED"...??!
WHAT PART OF ME IS...
IN THE EYES OF OLD MEN, ALL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS ARE TEENY-BOPPERS.
TAKASHI ISN'T AN OLD MAN!
HE'S ONLY IN HIS 20s!
COMPARED TO A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL, ALL "SUITS" ARE OLD MEN.
I TRIED SO HARD, SPORTING HOT OUTFITS ON OUR DATES!
UH-OH.
THAT'S PROBABLY WHERE YOU WENT WRONG...
YOU TRIED TOO HARD.
SO THAT'S WHY HE THOUGHT I WAS A TEENY-BOPPER...
BUT HE'S AN ADULT, SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD TRY TO MAKE MYSELF LOOK A LITTLE MORE MATURE.
I MEAN, IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A NORIKA HAIRDO?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WAS I STUPID FOR GETTING A HAIRDO LIKE NORIKA FUJIWARA?
I THINK HE WOULD HAVE GONE TO TOKYO ANYWAY.
NO...
I'M JUST CURSED...
LUCKY SEVEN, WHAT A LIE!
MY NAME'S IN SCARY MOVIES...
I COME UP IN NOSTRADAMUS'S PROPHECIES...
BESIDES, THE NAME "NANA" IS BAD LUCK.
WHY IS IT THAT NO MATTER WHAT I DO, NOTHING EVER WORKS OUT?
NO WAY!
I'D DIE IF YOU WENT TO TOKYO TOO, JUN!
HE'S SO LUCKY.
BUT TOKYO...
YOU KNOW, I SHOULD'VE APPLIED TO A TOKYO ART SCHOOL, TOO.

HUH? YOU'RE CUTTING IT?
WHILE YOU HAVE A BROKEN HEART?
YOUR HAIR?
SO OKAY! LET'S GO!
I'M GONNA GET A HAIRDO THAT WON'T MAKE ME LOOK LIKE A TEENY-BOPPER ANYMORE!
IT'S ABOUT LOOKING FORWARD TO MY NEXT RELATIONSHIP.
THERE'S A LOT OF COOL SHOPS...
OF COURSE YOU'D LOVE TOKYO. ♡
BUT I UNDERSTAND.
I SUPPOSE
AND YOU CAN GET YOUR HAIR DONE AT THE BEST SALONS.♡
THAT REMINDS ME, A CUTE SALON JUST OPENED UP NEAR THE F TRAIN STATION, MAYBE I SHOULD GO.
I WANNA GET A PERM.
Na—na— ♫
Na na—
Na—na-na—
YOU WON'T BE A TEENY-BOPPER ANYMORE, YA KNOW?
BUT AFTER TODAY, YOU'LL BE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE.
NO WAY!
THE GRADUATION CEREMONY'S ALREADY STARTED!
OH NO!

DISAPPOINTED AFTER STARTING AT AN ALL-GIRL HIGH SCHOOL WITH NO CHANCE OF EVEN MEETING ANY GUYS...
IT WAS IN THE SPRING-TIME OF MY FRESH-MAN YEAR...
AND THAT'S NOT AN EXAG-GERA-TION.
START-ED AND ENDED WITH LOVE.
LOOK-ING BACK, MY HIGH SCHOOL LIFE...
I INSTANTLY FELL IN LOVE WITH MR. OKAMOTO, MY 25-YEAR-OLD TEACH-ER FROM ART CLASS.
AT ANY RATE, THAT'S HOW I GOT IN-TEREST-ED IN DRAW-ING.
YOU'RE QUITE GOOD AT DRAWING
I WAS ALWAYS GOOD AT ART.
TEE HEE
BUT I DECIDED TO JOIN ART CLUB WITH THIS GIRL FROM MY CLASS, JUN, WHO I SOON BECAME FRIENDS WITH.
I WASN'T PARTIC-ULARLY GOOD AT ART...
I SHOULD HAVE PROFES-SED MY LOVE TO HIM.
IF YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING, NOTHING WILL EVER HAPPEN.
NEXT TIME I WILL, I SWEAR!
I SUPPOSE... BUT THERE'S ALWAYS A CHANCE YOU'D MAKE A MOVE, AND STILL NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN.
MR. OKAMOTO
I WAS GROWING OUT MY BANGS SO I COULD HAVE THE SAME HAIR AS YOU .
BUT AFTER THAT YEAR, NOTHING REALLY HAP-PENED BE-TWEEN US, AND THEN HE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL.

SO THAT'S HOW I GOT REALLY INTO MOVIES.
TRYING TO IMITATE HIS HAIRDO.
I WENT TO THE VIDEO STORE EVERY DAY, JUST SO I COULD SEE HIM.
BUT THEN ONE DAY, WHEN I FINALLY GOT THE GUTS TO TALK TO HIM, HE BLEW ME OFF.
UH...
LET'S GO OUT!
UM...
THAT'S KINDA INAPPROPRIATE.
HAVE A NICE DAY
MY NEXT ROMANTIC ENCOUNTER CAME SOON ENOUGH.
HOW MANY DAYS WILL YOU BE RENTING FOR?
MEET MR. NAKAMURA, AROUND 23 YEARS OLD, THE HIPSTER WHO WORKED AT THE VIDEO STORE NEAR MY HOUSE.
UNTIL TOMORROW ♡
EVEN WHEN YOU PLAY IT COOL, BAD IS STILL BAD.
NOPE.
NEXT TIME, I'LL BE LESS OBVIOUS.
I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO FORWARD.
YOU SURE THAT'S THE PROBLEM?
SO I DECIDED TO GO ON A DIET.
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I WASN'T CHARMING ENOUGH.
THESE DIET COOKIES AREN'T SO GOOD.
MEN ARE ABOUT WHAT'S INSIDE, NOT JUST HOW THEY LOOK, YA KNOW?
BUT, WHY DO YOU ALWAYS FALL SO EASILY IN LOVE LIKE THAT ANYWAY?
THANK YOU
BUT FOR SOME REASON, NOTHING EVER CAME OF MY ROMANTIC EFFORTS.
THEN THERE WAS THE BABY-FACED PIZZA DELIVERY GUY, YOSHIDA, PROBABLY AROUND 20 YEARS OLD.
AND THERE WERE FUTURE ENCOUNTERS...
SSSSSSSS
LIKE THE OH-SO-COOL MR. KAWASAKI, 35 YEARS OLD. HE'S THE CHEF AT A RESTAURANT I WORK AT PART TIME.

BUT NO MATTER HOW HOT A GUY IS, I WOULDN'T LIKE HIM IF HE WAS EMPTY INSIDE.
IT'S TRUE, I WAS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT LOOKS THAN MOST PEOPLE ARE.
IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE SUMMER OF MY JUNIOR YEAR IN HIGH SCHOOL...
WHEN I FINALLY MET HIM.
I WONDER IF THERE ARE ANY GUYS OUT THERE SOMEWHERE WHO ARE THAT COOL AND NICE IN REAL LIFE ...
SO THEN WHY ARE ALL THE GUYS IN THE MOVIES SO GREAT?
Stagger
Stagger
HEY--
WHAT HAPPENED-- ARE YOU OKAY?
I FEEL LIKE I'M GONNA FAINT.
WHAT THE ...?
Stagger
BUT THIS WAS JUST A FLEETING THOUGHT.
I REALIZED THAT I REALLY HAVE TO START TAKING THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW THE PERSON BEFORE I FALL IN LOVE AGAIN.

NO... I'M OKAY, REALLY ...
YOU SHOULDN'T OVERDO IT.
I'LL GO GET YOU SOME-THING TO DRINK.
OH. I'M SORRY ...
YEAH, I'M OKAY.
YOU'RE TOTALLY PALE.
YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN FOR A SECOND ON THE BENCH HERE.
ENTER TAKASHI ASANO, AGE 29.
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, HE MIGHT HAVE USED A PSEU-DONYM.
HE MIGHT HAVE LIED ABOUT HIS AGE, TOO.
IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
HAVE YOU EATEN ANY-THING?
NO... I'M ON A DIET, SO SOMETIMES I GET DIZZY...
DO YOU ALWAYS GO TO THE MOVIES BY YOUR-SELF?
YEAH. ♡
UM... ♡
GOOD THING I GOT IN SHAPE.
I'M A FILM GEEK.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I LOVE GOING TO THE MOVIES ALONE...
YOU'RE SO CUTE JUST THE WAY YOU ARE, WITH-OUT HAVING TO DO THAT TO YOUR SELF.
Cute.

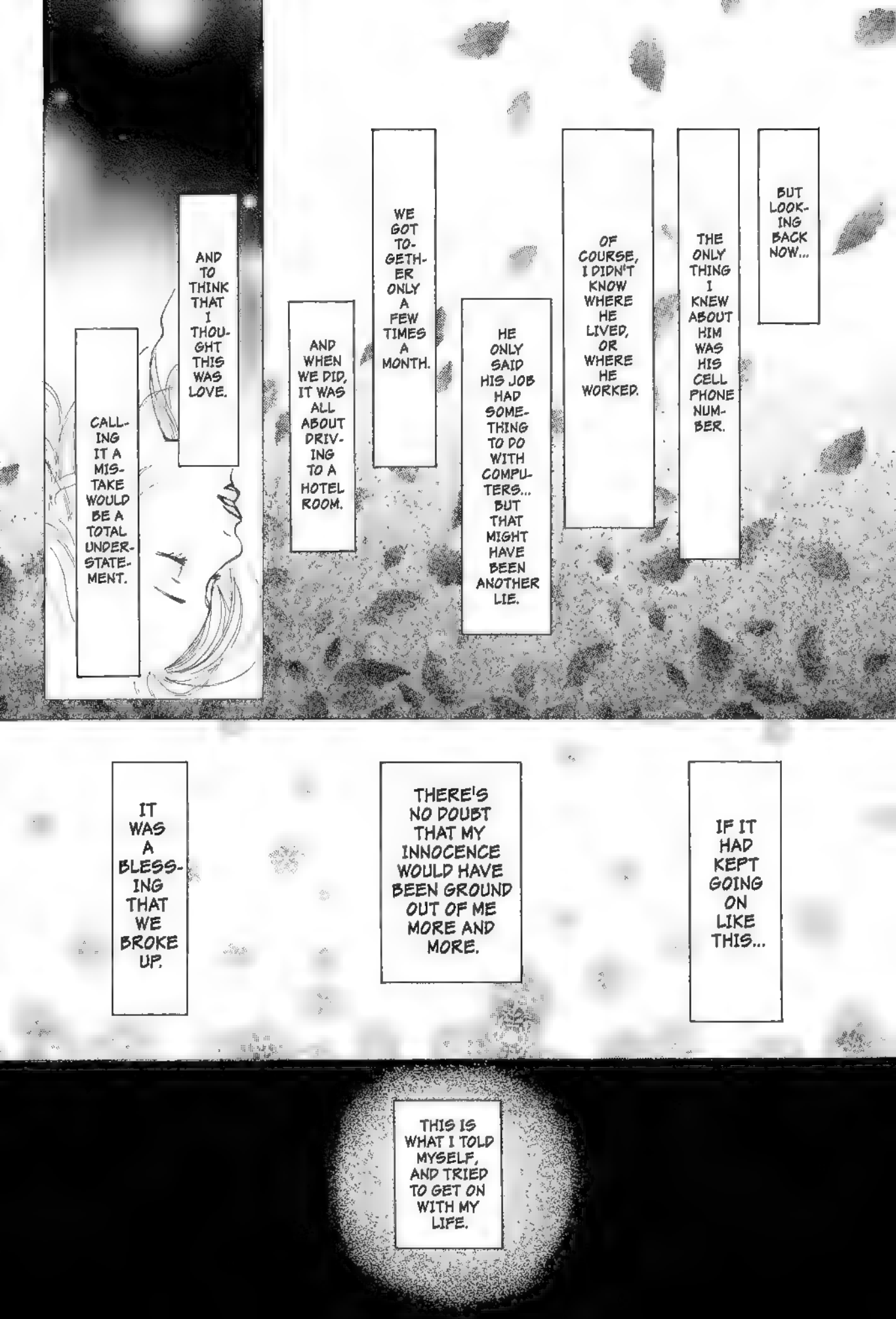
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE FEELING BETTER NOW.
WELL, I'D BETTER GET GOING...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU...
UM!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
ME, TOO.
YEAH ... I UNDER-STAND.
BUT I WOULD GO TO A MOVIE WITH YOU ♡
BESIDES, IT'S GETTING LATE. BE CARE-FUL GOING HOME.
AND RESPECTFUL.
AND NICE...
HE WAS COOL ...
UM...
TOTALLY PERFECT !!
I WORK AT A RESTAURANT DOWN THE STREET!

I WAITED AND WONDERED, WHILE GOING ON WITH MY DAILY LIFE, BUT HE STILL DIDN'T SHOW UP.
TWO WEEKS LATER ...
I OWE YOU ONE.
IF YOU WANT, COME IN SOME-TIME.

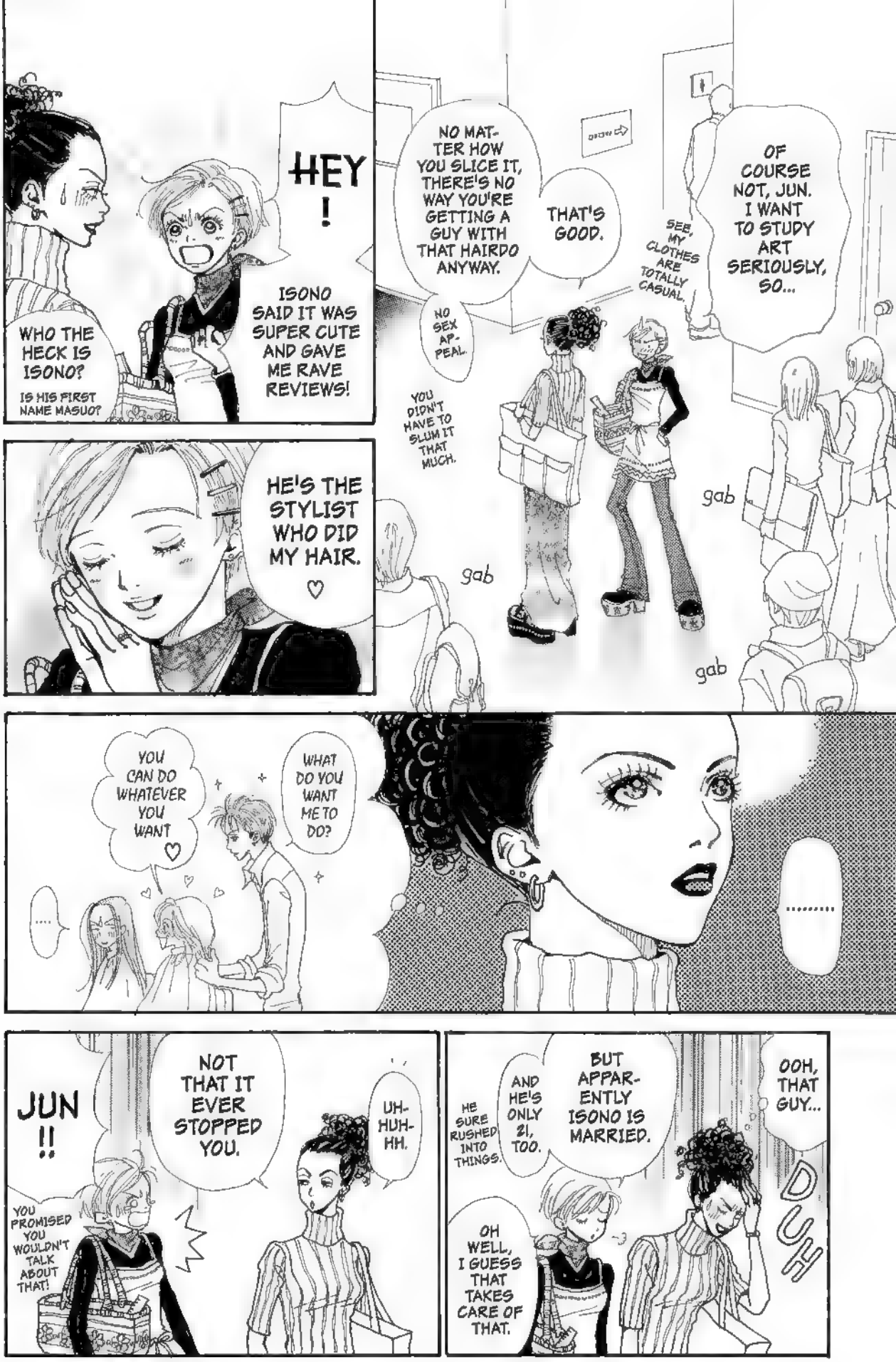
IF THERE WERE, I'D BE REALLY SUSPI-CIOUS.
FOR-GET ABOUT IT.
THERE'S NO WAY THERE WOULD BE SUCH A PERFECT GUY IN THE REAL WORLD.
MAYBE YOU WERE HALLUCIN-ATING FROM OVER-DIETING.
I NEED JUNK FOOD !
Waaaa
IF ONLY I'D AT LEAST ASKED HIS NAME.
HOW WOULD I EVER FIND HIM?
I WON-DER IF I'LL EVER SEE HIM AGAIN.
I COULD ONLY THINK OF ONE THING...

IN LOVE WITH HIM.
I TOTALLY FELL, HEAD-OVER-HEELS...
AND I SAW HIM STANDING THERE, WAITING FOR ME...
WHEN I GOT OFF WORK AND LEFT THE RESTAU-RANT...
THAT'S WHY, ON THAT DAY...

I NOTICED RIGHT AWAY...
THAT HE HAD A WEDDING RING ON HIS FINGER...
BUT I SOME-HOW IGNORED IT.
IF I HAD TO PIN-POINT THE MOMENT WHEN I BLOS-SOMED INTO A WOMAN ...
IT WAS RIGHT THEN.
I HAD GENU-INELY FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HIM...
AND I BELIEVED THAT HE LOVED ME BACK.


BUT LOOKING BACK NOW...
THE ONLY THING I KNEW ABOUT HIM WAS HIS CELL PHONE NUMBER.
OF COURSE, I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE HE LIVED, OR WHERE HE WORKED.
HE ONLY SAID HIS JOB HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH COMPUTERS... BUT THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ANOTHER LIE.
WE GOT TOGETHER ONLY A FEW TIMES A MONTH.
AND WHEN WE DID, IT WAS ALL ABOUT DRIVING TO A HOTEL ROOM.
AND TO THINK THAT I THOUGHT THIS WAS LOVE.
CALLING IT A MISTAKE WOULD BE A TOTAL UNDERSTATEMENT.
IF IT HAD KEPT GOING ON LIKE THIS...
THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT MY INNOCENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN GROUND OUT OF ME MORE AND MORE.
IT WAS A BLESSING THAT WE BROKE UP.
THIS IS WHAT I TOLD MYSELF, AND TRIED TO GET ON WITH MY LIFE.

VALEDIC-TORIAN, NANA KOMATSU.
SO MAYBE I'LL FINALLY GET A CHANCE TO MEET SOMEONE SPECIAL.
THE ART SCHOOL IS CO-ED...
MY PLAN IS TO ENROLL IN THE LOCAL ART SCHOOL THIS SPRING WITH MY BEST FRIEND JUN.
ART SCHOOL
.....
NANA...
ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU'RE JUST HERE TO FIND A BOY-FRIEND?


HEY!
ISONO SAID IT WAS SUPER CUTE AND GAVE ME RAVE REVIEWS!
WHO THE HECK IS ISONO?
IS HIS FIRST NAME MASUO?
HE'S THE STYLIST WHO DID MY HAIR. ♡
OF COURSE NOT, JUN. I WANT TO STUDY ART SERIOUSLY, SO...
SEE, MY CLOTHES ARE TOTALLY CASUAL.
THAT'S GOOD.
NO MATTER HOW YOU SLICE IT, THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GETTING A GUY WITH THAT HAIRDO ANYWAY.
NO SEX APPEAL.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO SLUM IT THAT MUCH.
gab
gab
gab
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT ♡
....
.....
JUN!!
NOT THAT IT EVER STOPPED YOU.
UH-HUH-HH.
YOU PROMISED YOU WOULDN'T TALK ABOUT THAT!
OOH, THAT GUY...
BUT APPARENTLY ISONO IS MARRIED.
AND HE'S ONLY 21, TOO.
HE SURE RUSHED INTO THINGS.
OH WELL, I GUESS THAT TAKES CARE OF THAT.
DUH

I KNOW I'M LIKE THAT, BUT I'M ACTUALLY TRYING TO REPENT.
I THINK I'VE BEEN CURSED BY THE DEMON LORD...
BECAUSE I WAS WITH ANOTHER WOMAN'S HUSBAND.
THE DEMON LORD?
AND I REALIZED ANOTHER MAJOR THING...
AREN'T ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE HIT ON OLDER THAN ME?
IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE AN ELECTRA COMPLEX OR ANYTHING.
THAT'S THE MAJOR ISSUE?
MAYBE MY RELATIONSHIPS WENT BAD BECAUSE THE MEN WERE TOO OLD.
THERE'S LOTS OF PEOPLE MY AGE AT THIS SCHOOL...
IF WE'RE THE SAME AGE, THEN WE'D LIKE THE SAME THINGS, AND WE'D BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.
I HAVE THE FEELING A WONDERFUL ROMANCE COULD HATCH HERE. ♡
SHE IS SO HERE TO GET A GUY.
OH, HERE'S ROOM B-3.
ANYWAY, WHY DON'T YOU JUST STOP FALLING ALL OVER GUYS, NANA?
WHY DON'T YOU WAIT TO FIND OUT THE TRUE NATURE OF THE NEXT PERSON BEFORE...
HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?

MY EYES...
... MET WITH HIS.
A BOY WITH SUCH BEAU-TIFUL EYES.
HUH?
WHY?
HE'S WALK-ING RIGHT UP TO ME...
WHAT?

JUN-KO!
IT'S JUNKO, RIGHT?
SHOJI?
YEAH, SHOJI!
WOW, YOU GREW YOUR HAIR OUT, I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.
....
WOW, IT'S BEEN FOREVER!
IT'S BEEN, LIKE, THREE YEARS SINCE WE GRADUATED FROM JUNIOR HIGH.
BUT ANYWAY, WHY ARE YOU HERE?
AND IN THE SAME CLASS TO BOOT!
UH-OH...
WHAT?!
I'VE GOT ANOTHER LOUD-MOUTH WITH ME.
I HATE THIS.
JUN...
TO THINK SHE HAD AN ACE LIKE THIS HIDDEN UP HER SLEEVE...
SO THAT'S WHY SHE'S SO BLASÉ AND NEVER GOES OUT WITH ANYONE.
HEY.
YEP.
IS THIS YOUR FRIEND?
MY INSEPARABLE SIDEKICK FROM THE ALL-GIRL HIGH SCHOOL.
SHE'S THE QUEEN OF GOSSIP!
IS SHE A GOSSIP?
GULP
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M NANA KOMATSU.
OPEN-FOR-BUSINESS SMILE
NICE TO MEET YOU.

I'M SHOJI ENDO.
NICE TO MEET YOU, TOO. ♡
HIS SMILE IS ALSO AMAZ-ING. ♡
YOU GUYS SHOULD SIT OVER THERE WITH US.
I'M WITH A BUDDY OF MINE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, TOO.
.....
I'LL INTRO-DUCE YOU TO HIM.
I'M KYOSUKE TAKAKURA.
NICE TO MEET YOU...
THIS IS THE OPENING ACT OF HAPPY CAMPUS LIFE, ISN'T IT JUN? ♡
201
Junko Saotome
.....
AND HE'S NICE, TOO. ♡
HIS HAIR'S KINDA WEIRD ...
BUT IT LOOKS PRETTY GOOD ON HIM.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN CAMPUS LIFE?
IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ...
IT'S A TECHNICAL SCHOOL.
I'M SORRY ...
I JUST GET SO EXCITED...
BUT IT'S OKAY, I UNDERSTAND.
SHOJI IS YOUR ACE-IN-THE-HOLE, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T STEAL HIM FROM YOU.
ACE-IN-THE-HOLE?
YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
I'M JUST ANNOYED BY YOUR SUDDEN LACK OF INTEGRITY. AND, BY THE WAY, SHOJI AND I ARE JUST FRIENDS.
You Liar!
YOU'LL BE CURSED BY THE DEMON LORD.
IF YOU WERE IN THE SAME CLASS AS A BOY THAT GOOD LOOKING, YOU'D TOTALLY FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM!
IT'S NOT FAIR!
I'M NOT LIKE YOU!
IN JUNIOR HIGH, I HAD A BUNCH OF MALE FRIENDS AND I DIDN'T FALL IN LOVE WITH THEM ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
BESIDES, WHAT PART OF SHOJI DO YOU THINK IS GOOD LOOKING?
A BUNCH OF MALE FRIENDS ...
SO THAT'S IT... THAT MUST'VE BEEN NICE.
YOU HAVE TO ADMIRE THAT...
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T HAD A SINGLE MALE FRIEND UP UNTIL NOW.
I WONDER WHY?
WELL, INSTEAD OF SEEING THEM AS HUMANS, YOU ONLY SEE MEN, MEN, MEN. THAT'S WHY.
SO THAT'S IT...
OOOHHH
I HAVE TO THINK OF THEM AS JUST HUMAN...

I MIGHT SLIP AND FALL IN LOVE.
BUT IF I DON'T CONSCIOUSLY DECIDE THAT WE'RE JUST FRIENDS ...
SHOULDN'T IT JUST HAPPEN NATURALLY?
YOU MAKE FRIENDS AS A CONSCIOUS DECISION?
BUT, IN YOUR CASE, IT MIGHT BE A GOOD EXPERIENCE TO TRY TO JUST BE FRIENDS WITH THE BOYS FIRST.
IF YOU FALL IN LOVE, YOU FALL IN LOVE. IT JUST HAPPENS.
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT!
I'M GOING TO MAKE SHOJI AND KYOSUKE MY MALE FRIENDS.
HUH?
RING RING RRRINGGG
I GOTTA ANSWER MY PHONE. LEMME GO!
.....
DO WHAT?
THANKS, JUN! I'M REALLY GOING TO TRY AND DO IT RIGHT THIS TIME!
YEAH, NANA'S HERE, TOO.
SO COME OVER TO MY PLACE.
UH-HUH, SURE.
WE'RE TOTALLY OPEN.
HE'S JUST A FRIEND.
OKAY, CALM DOWN. REMEMBER...
OH... AND GET SOME BEER.
AND SOME SNACKS!
THUD
...
OH... SHOJI?
HELLO?
THUMP THUMP

HEY GUYS!
BEER
HELLO.
WOW! NICE PLACE.
YOU'RE A TOWNIE, BUT YOU LIVE HERE ALONE? TALK ABOUT GLAMOROUS.
YOU SHOULD BE PUNISHED.
THAT'S BECAUSE MY FAMILY'S HOME IS REALLY FAR FROM SCHOOL.
I LIVE FAR AWAY, TOO.
OVER THE HILLS AND THROUGH THE WOODS
HEH-HEH ...
THAT'S BECAUSE SHOJI WOULD GET LONELY LIVING AWAY FROM HIS GRANDMOTHER.
Yuhhh
KYOSUKE, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
AROUND HERE.
YEAH, ACTUALLY.
PLOP
Twitch
WOW, YOU REALLY ARE CLOSE. IS IT LIKE A FIVE-MINUTE WALK?
.....
BEHIND THE MINI-MART.
.....
REALLY? WHERE AROUND HERE?
FRIENDS! FRIENDS!
NO.
THAT AIN'T IT AT ALL.
ARE YOU BEING SHY?
I THOUGHT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A LOUDMOUTH...
YOU'RE BEING KINDA QUIET NANA.

IF THEY'RE MY FRIENDS, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO OPEN UP TO THEM...
THAT'S TRUE ...
IT'S HARD MAKING FRIENDS.
IT'S COOL, MAN. LET'S ALL JUST SPILL OUR GUTS AND REALLY GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.
HEH ...
A CONFESSION COMPETITION? COULD BE SCARY.
LET'S HAVE A TOAST!
BUT FIRST ...
AH, DO YOU HAVE A HARD TIME TALKING TO GUYS SOMETIMES BECAUSE YOU WENT TO AN ALL-GIRL HIGH SCHOOL?
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO TALK TO A MALE FRIEND.
OH NO!
MORE POLITELY OR DIRECT OR ROWDY OR WHAT?
.....
.....
BLUSH
HMMM.
WHOA
JUN!!
HAH!
THAT'S NOT THE CASE AT ALL, RIGHT?
NANA EVEN HAD A BOYFRIEND UP UNTIL RECENTLY.
SO I CAN LOOSEN UP A LITTLE.
I BETTER HURRY UP AND GET DRUNK...
WAS THE PIZZA DELIVERY MAN, "BABY-FACE YOSHIDA"!
SO THEN...
THE NEXT PERSON I INSTANTLY FELL IN LOVE WITH...

NANA! YOU CAN'T DRINK ANY-MORE!
TOO FUNNY!
NANA, YOU'RE AWESOME!
HA HA HA!
glug glug
HEY, IT'S ALL RIGHT IT'S EN-TERTAIN-ING.
SO THEN WHAT?
WHO WAS THE NEXT GUY?
HAHAHA!
SERIOUSLY, THERE'S MORE?
THE NEXT GUY WAS... ♡
HAHAHAHA
AARGH! YOU TWO, SHUT UP! YOU'RE DRUNK.
HE WAS SO CUTE! ♡ HIS SMILE! SUPER BABY-FACE! EEK! ♡
AH-HAHA! BABY-FACE YOSHIDA!
HEH HEH HEH.
HA HA HA
SO I JUST KEPT ON ORDER-ING PIZZAS, I GAINED LIKE 10 POUNDS, AND THEN HE NEVER CAME BACK TO MY HOUSE.
BIG FAT LOSS!
HA HA HA
WAS SOMEONE WHOSE NAME I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW.
THE NEXT PER-SON ...

I...
DIDN'T THINK I'D EVER SEE YOU AGAIN.
I DIDN'T EVEN ...
ASK YOU YOUR NAME....

ASANO.
TAKASHI...
STOP
...

NANA ...
KTAK
A SAPPY DRUNK ?
HEY HEY, WHAT'S WRONG ?
NANA ...
WAS PROB-ABLY MADE UP ANY-WAY.
THAT NAME ...
NANA !
Yank
NO!!
DON'T ...
TOUCH ME.
OH NANA, YOU DRANK WAY TOO MUCH.
SORRY SHOJI !
NO?
.....
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER !
I AM WORR-IED.
JUN ...

YOU DON'T LOVE ME...
DON'T TOUCH ME.
JUNKO.
NNNN
NNNN

I'M GONNA TAKE OFF NOW ...
OR I'LL MISS THE LAST TRAIN.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE WAY OUT THERE.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST SPEND THE NIGHT?
I HAVE TWO ROOMS.
NO, THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
IT'S JUST THAT...
KYOSUKE PASSED OUT...
IS IT OKAY TO LEAVE HIM LYING AROUND HERE?
YEAH ...
NO PROB-LEM.
SNORE
SOR-RY...
WHEN HE WAKES UP, HE'LL PROB-ABLY JUST GET UP AND LEAVE ON HIS OWN.
.....
HEY, SHOJI...
YOU DON'T HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND, RIGHT?
HAVE YOU FALLEN IN LOVE WITH ME, JUNKO?
.....
WHAT'S WITH THE FACE?!
MAN, YOU NEVER OPENED UP, EVEN BACK IN THE DAY.
WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, I HAD 5 TO 10 GIRL-FRIENDS, TOO.
I WOULDA LOVED TO SHOW YOU A GOOD TIME BACK THEN.

NO WAY
I DON'T THINK SO.
BUT NANA SAID SHE DIDN'T LIKE ME?
WHEN SHE SAID "NO"...
FROM THE MOMENT NANA FIRST SAW YOU, SHE'S BEEN SAYING "DREAMY" ♡ AND "SO COOL." ♡
I THOUGHT NOT.
SNICKER
SNICKER
I JUST SO HAPPEN TO NOT HAVE A GIRLFRIEND RIGHT NOW.
YOU CAME HERE TONIGHT BECAUSE OF NANA, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO EASY TO READ.
.....
WELL, BEST OF LUCK TO YA.
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?
PAT
DON'T YOU HAVE A KIND BONE IN YOUR BODY TO SAY "I'LL HELP YOU OUT" OR SOMETHING?!
chirp...
CLICK

MY HEAD HUUURRRTTTS!!
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
pound
pound
pound
IT'S LIKE ARMA-GED-DON!
STAB
!!
WHERE AM I?
.....
RAH RAH
WE TOASTED, DRANK LIKE FISH, GOT WILD AND CRAZY AND...
SHOJI AND KYOSUKE BROUGHT US BEER...
OH YEAH, LAST NIGHT ...
JUNNN ...
click
DO YOU HAVE ANY ASPI-RIN?
UH-OH
I DIDN'T CALL HOME YET.
IT'S ALREADY LIGHT OUT.
OH, MAN...
pound
pound
pound
....
I CAN'T REALLY REMEM-BER, BUT I THINK I HAD A GREAT TIME. ♡
MALE FRIENDS ARE GREAT, AREN'T THEY!

WHOOSH
SKEET
EVEA
WE WERE JUST TALKING ALL NIGHT, AND THEN I GUESS WE REALLY HIT IT OFF.
WELL, YOU KNOW, UH, YEAH...
BLUSH
CLUNK
NO, FROM THE MOMENT I FIRST SAW JUNKO, I THOUGHT SHE WAS REALLY COOL.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING...
WHY IS SHE MAKING EXCUSES?
AND SO, WE WERE JUST...

JUNKO, YOU BLABBER MOUTH!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BLABBED IT, REMEMBER?
THAT'S TRUE NANA, YOU'RE THE EXPERT ON LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
HA HA HA!
HUH ?
EXPERT ?
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW ??
click
click
click
click
REALLY ...??
WELL PUT, KYOSUKE.
FALLING IN LOVE ISN'T ABOUT LOGIC!
GOOD FOR YOU!
click click click
BLAB-BED ...
AND I CALLED YOUR HOUSE LAST NIGHT...
HOW MUCH DID I TE..L AND WHAT DID I SAY...
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
MAKE SURE YOUR STORY MATCHES UP.
I TOLD THEM YOU HAD A STOMACHACHE AND COULDN'T MOVE SO YOU'D BE STAYING HERE.
DO YOU WANNA BORROW SOME CLOTHES ?
NANA, YOU'LL BE LATE IF YOU GO HOME FIRST.
CLATTER
I GOTTA GO HOME AND CHANGE, THEN GO TO SCHOOL.
MAN, LOOK WHAT TIME IT IS.
YOU TALKED ABOUT EVERYTHING IN A FUNNY AND WEIRD WAY.
YOSHIDA FROM THE PIZZA PLACE.
KAWASAKI THE COOK...
THEN NAKAMURA FROM THE VIDEO STORE.
OH NO...
YOU STARTED WITH OKAMOTO FROM ART CLASS.

BUT, NANA...
WITH TAKASHI ...
YOU STILL HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT HIM, HAVE YOU?
BUT THAT'S NO SURPRISE.
NO, YOU WERE CRYING.
NOT AT ALL, I TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT THAT POSER!
TO THE POINT OF TELLING FUNNY STORIES ABOUT HIM TO OTHER PEOPLE!
WHEN IT CAME TO HIM, YOU STARTED CRYING AND DIDN'T TELL THE STORY.
HEY, NANA!
IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT LIKE SHOJI...
I'LL HELP YOU OUT. ♡
JUN ...?
WHAT GIVES, ALL OF A SUDDEN...
TALKING ALL NICE AND CUTESY.
DO YOU FEEL THAT GUILTY ABOUT GETTING TOGETHER WITH KYOSUKE?
NO, I'M SO SURE!

I GUARAN-TEE IT.
SHOJI'S A REALLY GOOD GUY.
I THINK HE'D BE VERY LOYAL WITH A GIRL-FRIEND.
HE'D BE VERY GOOD TO YOU NANA.
SERI-OUSLY!
NOT WITH YOU.
HA! I WOULDN'T!
IF YOU WERE A GUY, JUN, I'D TOTALLY BE YOUR GIRLFRIEND.
JUNNN.
IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME BEFORE HE COULD BE SOME-THING LIKE A BOY-FRIEND.
SHOJI'S A VERY IMPOR-TANT MALE FRIEND, YA KNOW?
HUH?
BUT IT'S OKAY. I'VE BECOME FRIENDS WITH SHOJI, SO...
JUNKO...
NANA...
A MALE FRIEND IS BETTER THAN A BOY-FRIEND?
SOME-THING LIKE A BOY-FRIEND?

I CAN'T GO TO BED WITHOUT HEARING MY GRAND-MOTHER'S LULLABY.
WITH THE LAST TRAIN.
.....
WELL I GUESS YOU'RE DOING JUST FINE...
WHEN DID YOU LEAVE LAST NIGHT SHOJI?
I'M SUPER GOOD. ♡
I WAS REALLY HUNG-OVER, BUT I TOOK SOME ASPIRIN, SO IT'S BETTER.

MORNIN' !
OH, GOOD ...
YOU SEEM GOOD, NANA.

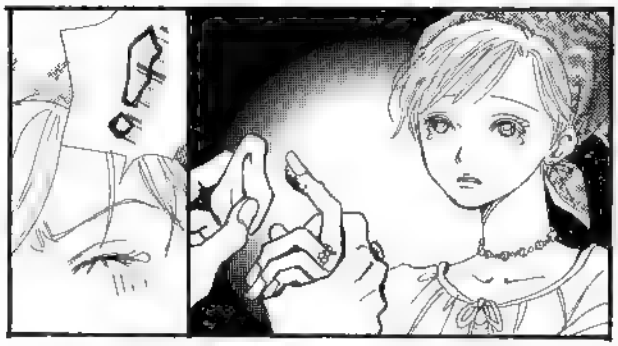
WELL, I GUESS IT'S ALL RIGHT.
WHAT-EVER WILL BE, WILL BE.
SERI-OUSLY ?
AH HA HA !!

SNIP

AS A RULE, I ONLY WATCH MOVIES BY MYSELF.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S BECAUSE I'D BE DIS-TRACTED BY HAVING A FRIEND SIT NEXT TO ME OR WHAT...
~~~
SORRY.

YOU SAID YOU LIKED MOVIES YESTER-DAY, DIDN'T YOU?
IF YOU'RE FREE THIS SUNDAY, DO YOU WANNA GO SEE A MOVIE WITH ME ?
.....
YEAH.
A MOVIE ?
~~~

YEAH, I UNDERSTAND.
ME, TOO.
.....
THIS IS POINT-LESS.
A FRIEND ...?
.....
SNAP
NURSE
OW!
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU DOING...
A COM-PO-SITION IN BLOOD ?
SPLASH
Antiseptic



I'M CURSED BY HIM...
THE DEMON LORD OF TERROR.
DEMON LORD, PLEASE RELEASE ME!
IT HURTS!
DEMON LORD?
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?
HERE, PUT YOUR HAND OUT.
YOU'RE JUST A KLUTZ.

IF I DON'T TAKE CARE OF IT, IT WILL BECOME MORE AND MORE...

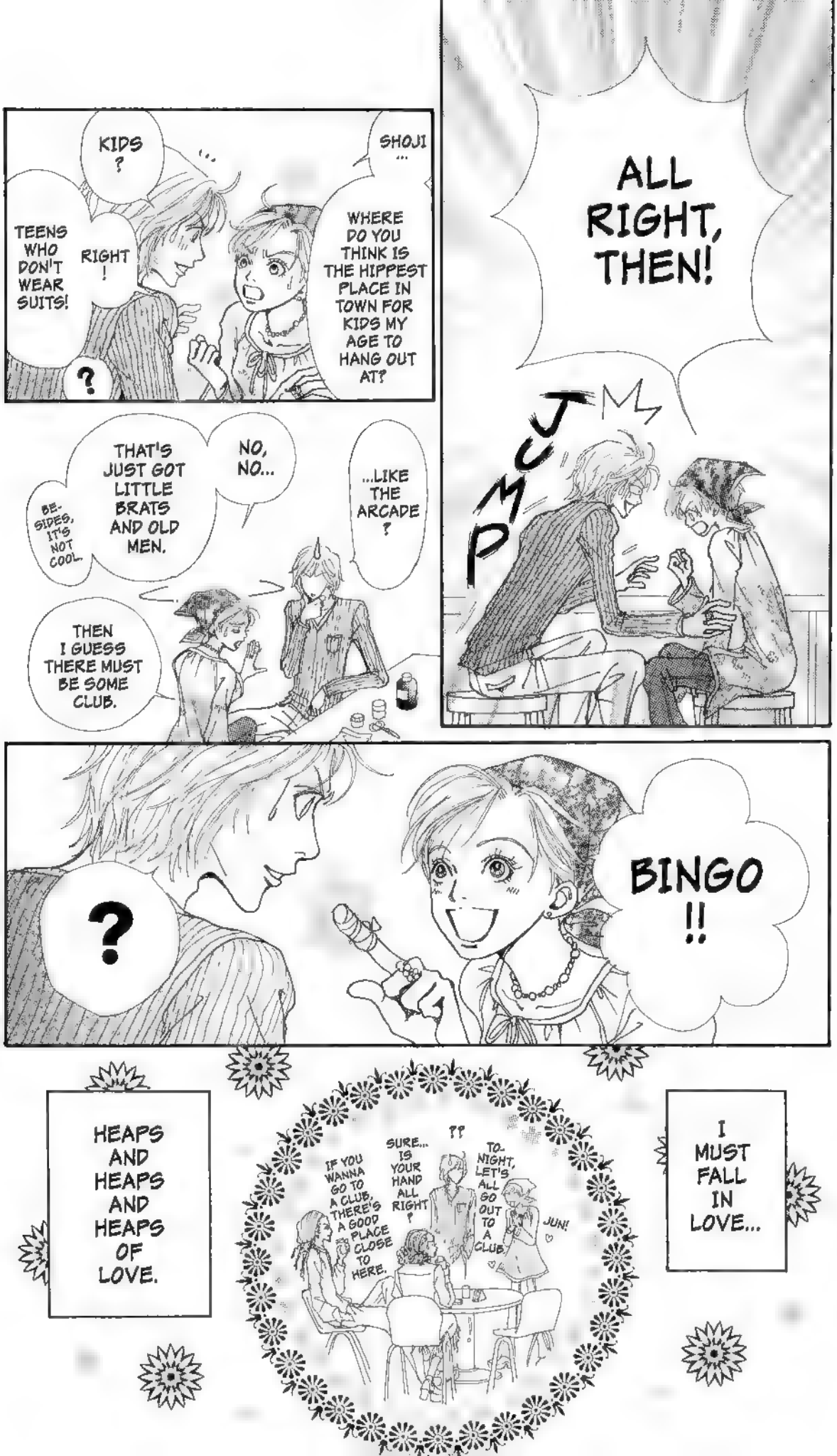
YOU STILL HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT TAKASHI, HAVE YOU?

IT'S AN OPEN WOUND, JUN.

NOT ONLY CAN I NOT FORGET ABOUT HIM...

HIS EVERY SINGLE MOVE.
THE MORE TIME THAT GOES BY...
IT ALL SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A LIE, AND I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO DIE FROM THE PAIN.
THE MORE I THINK OF HIM.
I HATE THIS!
!?
MY WHOLE BODY WILL ROT.
IF I GO ON LIKE THIS...
THE WOUND WILL HEAL RIGHT AWAY.
THE BAND-AGE IS PER-FECT.
YOU'RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.
CALM DOWN!

THANK YOU...
YOU'RE REALLY NICE, SHOJI.
IT WAS NOTH-ING...
WELL, MAYBE A LIT-TLE...
HEY, SHOJI ...
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD MEND A BROKEN HEART?
...A HEART ...?
I DON'T KNOW ...
I THINK ...
THE ONLY WAY IS FOR ME TO FALL IN LOVE AGAIN.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
.....
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.
NANA ...


ALL RIGHT, THEN!
PMCJ
SHOJI ...
WHERE DO YOU THINK IS THE HIPPEST PLACE IN TOWN FOR KIDS MY AGE TO HANG OUT AT?
KIDS ?
RIGHT !
TEENS WHO DON'T WEAR SUITS!
?
...LIKE THE ARCADE ?
NO, NO...
THAT'S JUST GOT LITTLE BRATS AND OLD MEN.
BE-SIDES, IT'S NOT COOL.
THEN I GUESS THERE MUST BE SOME CLUB.
?
BINGO !!
HEAPS AND HEAPS AND HEAPS OF LOVE.
IF YOU WANNA GO TO A CLUB, THERE'S A GOOD PLACE CLOSE TO HERE.
SURE... IS YOUR HAND ALL RIGHT ?
??
TO-NIGHT, LET'S ALL GO OUT TO A CLUB
JUN!
I MUST FALL IN LOVE...

CLUB
Cosmic Connection
B1
AND I'LL BANISH MY PATHETIC FORMER SELF TO DARK-NESS.
NANA.

OOOHHHH! ♡ DJ MATSUSHITA IS SO COOL!
SUPER FOXY! SUPER CHILL!
EEEK
IF YOU LIKE HIM SO MUCH, WHY DON'T YOU TELL HIM?
IF YOU'RE LUCKY, MAYBE HE'LL GO OUT WITH YOU, YA KNOW?
YOU WERE HERE ALL THIS TIME?
BUT I DON'T WANT THAT.
MATSUSHITA IS A LADIES' MAN AND SUPPOSEDLY A TOTAL PLAYER.
RUMOR HAS IT, HE GOES THROUGH THE LADIES ONE RIGHT AFTER THE OTHER.
HE'S NO GOOD.
AN ENEMY OF WOMEN!
THEN JUST DON'T FALL FOR HIM.
HEY! THAT ADVICE SOUNDS FAMILIAR.
SHOJI, YOU'RE TURNING INTO JUN.
MAYBE I'LL JUST CALL YOU SHO-JUN FROM NOW ON
ANYONE WOULD GET THAT WAY AFTER HANGING AROUND YOU!
BUT JUN DOESN'T TREAT ME THE WAY SHE USED TO.
SHE'S TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH KYOSUKE, AND IT'S SOFTENED HER... OR TONED HER DOWN A BIT.
SHE'S LOST HER EDGE.

I WAS DRINKING AT A BAR IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN STATION WITH KYOSUKE AND THEM, SO I THOUGHT I'D INVITE YOU.
YOU WOULD SAY WE DITCHED YOU, IF I DIDN'T COME FIND YOU.
DON'T CALL ME SHO-JUN.
ANYWAY, SHO-JUN, IS THERE A REASON YOU CAME LOOKING FOR ME?
I WAS IN THE BASEMENT, SO MY CELL PHONE DIDN'T RING. SORRY.
AREN'T THERE ANY OTHER CLUBS OR ANYTHING?
I WANNA GO TO THE BEACH FOR A CHANGE.
I MEAN, IT IS SUMMER.
MAN, IT'S LIKE ALL WE EVER DO IS DRINK.
YAY!
I'LL GO, LET'S GO!
LET'S DRINK, LET'S DRINK!

BUT IT'S COOL, MAN. ♡
I HAVE YOU NOW, SHOJI !
AFTER ALL, I'M JUST JUNKO'S REPLACE-MENT.

THE BEACH !!
HEY, IT'S ALMOST SUMMER VACA-TION. LET'S ALL GO SOMEWHERE ON A TRIP OR SOMETHING!

SPLASH

AHHH♡
I LOVE THE OCEAN.
IT MAKES ME FEEL YOUNG AND HAPPY.
DRINKING, OF COURSE.
I WAS SO BORED OF SEEING JUST MOUNTAINS ALL THE TIME.
Sea Side hotel
MAN, ARE YOU DRUNK ALREADY?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, NANA? THIS IS YOUR ROOM.
OH REALLY, JUN? ♡
THEN WE SHALL BID YOU FARE-WELL.
I'LL SLEEP WITH YOU, SHOJI.
I'LL GIVE IT UP TO JUN AND KYOSUKE. ♡
I'M TIRED.
HEH HEH!
I'M DEF-INITELY SICK OF LOOKING AT MOUN-TAINS.
THEY SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG JUST FINE WITH-OUT US.
WELL, HELL.
SLAM
YOU THINK IT'S GONNA BE THAT EASY?
.....
UGH... GOD, AREN'T YOU FRIENDLY, SHOJI!
LET'S HURRY UP AND GO.
HEY.
WHaa ?!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SING TO ME!
IF YOU WANT, I'LL SING YOU A LULLABY LIKE YOUR GRAND-MOTHER.
IT'S COOL, MAN. THERE'S TWO BEDS, AND I WON'T ASSAULT YOU, SO DON'T WORRY. ♡
EVEN IF YOU'RE COOL, I'M NOT.
I MIGHT JUMP ON YOU!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU THINK-ING?
WHY ...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHY?"
WE'RE FRIENDS, RIGHT?
.....
GUYS CAN DO IT EVEN WHEN THEY'RE NOT IN LOVE!
NANA ...
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW SQUAT ABOUT HOW MEN REALLY ARE.

I KNOW THAT...
BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFER-ENT, SHOJI...
JUN TOLD ME SO...
BECAUSE I REALLY LIKED YOU SHOJI... AND NOW I'M BUMMED AT YOU!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT JUNKO TOLD YOU, BUT...
I'M SORRY TO SAY IT, BUT THAT'S HOW I AM!
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

I LIKE YOU AS A HUMAN, NOT JUST AS A MEMBER OF THE MALE SPECIES!
DO YOU MEAN "AS A FRIEND"?
WHEN YOU SAY "REALLY LIKE"...
NO, YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, NANA...
YEAH, OF COURSE.
SHOJI, YOU'RE MY MOST IMPORTANT MALE FRIEND, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE!
SHOJI, YOU'RE STILL A MEMBER OF THE MALE SPECIES, AND IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS FOR US TO SLEEP IN THE SAME ROOM.
I WAS WRONG.
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT.
MALE SPECIES?
IT'S HARD TO MAINTAIN A CO-ED FRIENDSHIP, ISN'T IT SHO-JUN?
.....
I WONDER WHEN THEY'LL BE DONE.
OH, YEAH. WHAT TO DO...
.....
..YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE ASKING ME...
IT DEPENDS, YA KNOW.
WHAT A PREDICAMENT.
IT MIGHT BE WEIRD, YOU KNOW, IF I CALLED THEM ON THE PHONE TO ASK...
.....
WELL, I'M GOING BACK TO MY ROOM.
BUT LET'S TRY OUR BEST!
WAIT, NANA!
THAT MIGHT BE BAD!
THEY MIGHT BE A LITTLE, UH, BUSY!
JUMP

I'LL SLEEP OVER ON THAT BED.
GOOD NIGHT.
ALL RIGHT, I GET IT, NANA.
JUST SLEEP IN HERE!
WHY NOT?
NOTH-ING TO WORRY ABOUT NOW!
YOU CAN'T SHOJI! IT'S DANGER-OUS!
WELL, YOU JUST SAID I BUMMED YOU OUT, DIDN'T YOU?
I WOULDN'T WANT TO DO ANY MORE OF THAT!
BE-CAUSE OF OUR FRIEND-SHIP.
SHOJI...

AHAHAHA
♫ ROCK-A-BYE BA-BY ♫
I LOVE YOU! ♡
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SING TO ME!!

I CAN GO TO TOKYO NOW WITH SOME PEACE OF MIND.

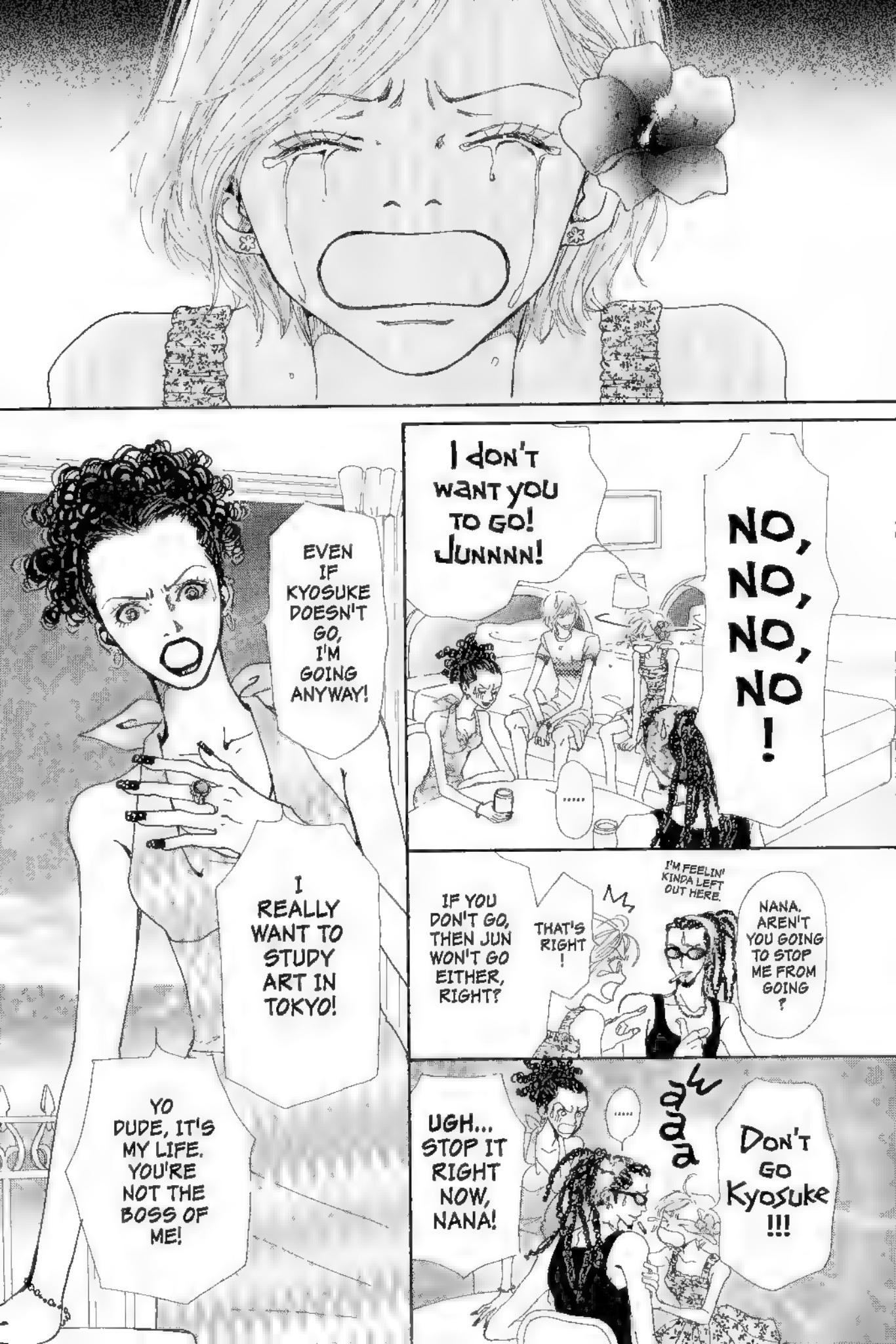
JUNNNN...

A JOB WELL DONE, SHO-JUN. ♡
IF I GO IN THE WATER TODAY, I'LL PROBABLY DIE.
I DIDN'T GET A BIT OF SLEEP.
IT'S NOTHING TO LAUGH ABOUT. UGH.
DON'T CALL ME SHO-JUN.
I'M DEPENDING ON YOU TO BE THERE FOR NANA FROM NOW ON.
YEAH, YEAH.
WE'RE JUST FRIENDS THOUGH.

LET'S SWIM TOGETHER!
COME SWIMMING!

CLUNK
BEER
生

YOU'RE GONNA REGRET IT IF YOU SIT OUT FOR TOO LONG.
YOU'RE LOW ON MELANIN YOU KNOW.
KYOSUKE ...
IS JUNKO REALLY GOING TO TOKYO ?
YEAH, YOU HEARD.
WHY ?
WHAT FOR ?
THIS ISN'T JUST FOR A VACA-TION?
SHE'S APPLYING TO ART SCHOOL IN TOKYO NEXT YEAR.
EVEN IF SHE DOESN'T GET IN, SHE'S GONNA GO TO A PREP-SCHOOL IN TOKYO.
APPLY-ING? HELL, IF IT'S JUNKO, SHE'LL ...
BUT IS IT OKAY WITH YOU?
WHY ARE YOU SO CALM ABOUT IT?
WHY? BE-CAUSE ...
I'M GOING, TOO.
Splash


I don't want you to go! Junnnn!
NO, NO, NO, NO!
.....
IF YOU DON'T GO, THEN JUN WON'T GO EITHER, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT!
I'M FEELIN' KINDA LEFT OUT HERE.
NANA. AREN'T YOU GOING TO STOP ME FROM GOING?
UGH... STOP IT RIGHT NOW, NANA!
.....
aaa
Don't go Kyosuke !!!
EVEN IF KYOSUKE DOESN'T GO, I'M GOING ANYWAY!
I REALLY WANT TO STUDY ART IN TOKYO!
YO DUDE, IT'S MY LIFE. YOU'RE NOT THE BOSS OF ME!

LONELY.
BUT I'LL BE...
IT'S TRUE.
YOU'RE RIGHT, JUN.
...I'M SORRY.
EVEN SAD-DER.
MORE LONELY THAN THAT ONE SNOWY DAY...
IT'S JULY, ISN'T IT?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT...

HAPPEN-
ING ALL
OVER
AGAIN.
IT
WAS
NOSTRA-
DAMUS'S
PROPH-
ECY...
Splash
SO,
NANA...
I'M
THINKING
OF GOING
TO SCHOOL
IN TOKYO,
TOO.

MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO GO WITH ME?
THUD THUD THUD
S ART UNIVERSITY
(Entrance Exam Information)
A Art Schoo
Tokyo M Colleg
of Fine Arts
TOKYO F ART COLLEGE
Information

WOW... THAT'S SO COOL!
TOKYO HAS SO MANY ART SCHOOLS.
WITH THAT MANY SCHOOLS, THEY GOTTA LET ME IN SOME-WHERE!
YEAH, JUST APPLY TO ALL OF 'EM, MAN.
AND IF I DON'T GET IN, I CAN JUST GO TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE FIRST.
.....
WHAT THE HELL ...
WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?
YO DUDE, IT'S MY LIFE! YOU'RE NOT THE BOSS OF ME!
HEY ...
I JUST WANNA GO TO TOKYO WITH ALL YOU GUYS...
JUST DO WHAT YOU WANT.
I DON'T WANNA TELL YOU HOW TO RUN YOUR LIFE.
SIGH

I'LL BE ON MY BEST BEHAV-IOR!
MMMM
IF I'M "ABANDON-ING" YOU, WHY ARE YOU SO HAPPY?!
JUNKO
♥OOOOO
FORGET ROMANCE... I GOTTA WORK ON GETTING OUTTA HERE!
NO Drink-ing
DIE Demon Lord
Move to Tokyo
NO MORE PARTYING!
I'LL RETIRE FROM CLUB LIFE!
GOOD RIDDANCE, 20-YEAR-OLD DJ MATSUSHITA!
GO MACK ON SOME OTHER CHICK!
EVERY-THING'S PERFECT THERE!
AND I CAN GET MY HAIR DONE PRO.
THERE'S A LOT OF COOL SHOPS...
THERE'S TONS OF GREAT PEOPLE ...
BE-SIDES, IF I GO TO TOKYO ...

THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF OUR MAGICAL TOKYO ADVENTURES, ISN'T IT JUN?!
FINALLY, SOME REAL CAMPUS LIFE!
Tokyo F Art College

LIFE DOESN'T FALL INTO PLACE SO EASILY, DOES IT?
YEAH ...
I'M NOT GOING TO COLLEGE TO PARTY!
YEAH... YEAH!
WELL, YOU'RE THE LUCKY ONES, JUN! YOU GOT INTO YOUR FIRST CHOICE, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PARTY ALL YOU WANT THIS SPRING.
.....
THE DEMON LORD PLAYS FAVOR-ITES!
IT ISN'T FAIR JUN, YOU HAVE ALL THE LUCK!
DON'T YOU BLAME IT ON YOUR DEMON LORD.
WHAT WENT WRONG...?
I TRIED SO HARD.
I DIDN'T GET IN ANYWHERE...
I'M JUST CURSED, THAT'S IT...
THE DEMON LORD'S CURSE HAS ME NOW, TOO...
HOW'S THIS CURSE CONTA-GIOUS?
BUT I DON'T WANNA JUST KEEP TRYING TO GET IN...
WHAT AM I GONNA DO ...?
MY PARENTS SAID THEY'LL ONLY PAY FOR A UNIVER-SITY...
SO YOU DIDN'T GET INTO A UNIVER-SITY, BUT YOU COULD START OUT AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE, RIGHT?
BUT Y'KNOW, NANA ...
SLAM
DON'T INVOLVE ME IN YOUR WEIRD CULT !!
THAT'S LIFE.
WELL, THAT'S ALL RIGHT, TOO.
SO YOU'RE A WANNABE STUDENT COME SPRING, HUH?

JUN...
.....
WHAT AM I GONNA DO...
"SORRY 'BOUT THAT"
YEAH
I WANNA GET UP EARLY TOMORROW AND START LOOKING FOR HOUSING.
HEY, SORRY 'BOUT THAT, BUT HOW 'BOUT WE START HEADING BACK TO THE HOTEL?
YEAH! ♡
NANA ...
SINCE WE'RE ALREADY HERE IN TOKYO, WANNA GO LOOK AROUND?
THERE'S NO END TO YOUR "RESPONSIBILITIES" THERE
DON'T GET TOO DRUNK.
ALL RIGHT
YOU GUYS GO ON WITHOUT US
click click
I WONDER WHERE'S A GOOD PLACE TO GO.
WOW, TOKYO SEEMS SO... YOU KNOW...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S THIS LATE BUT STILL SO CROWDED.
I FEEL LIKE A TOTAL COUNTRY GIRL.
YOU ARE A TOTAL COUNTRY GIRL.
STOP STARING AT EVERYTHING.
OOHH AAHH
DON'T YOU THINK IT MIGHT BE BEST TO JUST STAY AT THE LOCAL ART SCHOOL?
SO ANYWAYS, IN APRIL...

NO WAY, MAN!
.....
NOW THAT'S A DOOMED LOVE AFFAIR ...
DO YOU NEED TO BE WITH JUNKO THAT MUCH?
I FEEL LIKE IT'S MY FAULT.
I'M THE ONE WHO GOT YOU TO MOVE.
MAYBE IT'S BETTER IF YOU STAY BACK HOME.
I WANNA MOVE TO TOKYO NO MATTER WHAT.
YEAH, BUT ...
BUT YOU'RE MOVING TO TOKYO TOO, AREN'T YOU SHOJI?
BUT ...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? DON'T GO CRAZY ON ME!
I'LL BE FINE, I CAN DO IT.
WHAT'S SO CRAZY ABOUT IT?
YOU'LL DIE HOMELESS!
YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO SURVIVE WITHOUT AN ALLOWANCE.
THAT'S WHY I SAID I'D WORK PART-TIME!
I'M SCREWED ...
THEN I'M MOVING TO TOKYO, TOO!
EVEN IF I CAN'T GET MONEY FROM MY 'RENTS, I'LL WORK ODD JOBS AND PROVE I CAN MAKE IT!
I'M, WELL ...
YEAH, I'M GONNA ENROLL IN AN S.A.T. SCHOOL HERE ...
AND APPLY TO UNIVERSITY AGAIN NEXT YEAR.

DON'T JUST GO TO S.A.T. SCHOOL FOR NO REASON.
WHAT THE HELL ?
AND THEN MY 'RENTS MIGHT GIVE ME SOME MONEY.
THEN I'LL GO TO AN S.A.T. SCHOOL TOO...
THEN WHAT SHOULD I...
JUST STAY BACK HOME.
WHY DON'T YOU GET REAL FOR ONCE ?!
YOU AREN'T A KID ANYMORE, SO AT LEAST ACKNOWL-EDGE THAT.
WHAT ABOUT RENT MONEY? YOU'LL NEED HUNDREDS OF THOU-SANDS OF YEN TO START OUT WITH, YA KNOW?

SHOJI, YOU WON'T MISS ME, WILL YOU...

blah
blah
blah
I AIN'T GONNA MISS YOU AT ALL!
I'LL BE LIBER-ATED!

YOU JUST WANT A GUY NEARBY, WHO YOU'RE ONLY NICE TO WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT.
WHAT AM I TO YOU, ANY-WAYS?
YOU LOVE IT, DON'T YOU, PLAYING MY FEELINGS BY GETTING ALL TEARY-EYED AND SAYING THINGS TO GET ME STOKED?
TO HELL WITH YOUR CO-ED FRIEND-SHIP.
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.

blah
blah
OHMIGOD!
AH HA HA!
blah
BISH!
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah

TO THE HOTEL.

I HAVE TO GET BACK...

BUT I DON'T...

KNOW HOW.

BECAUSE I ALWAYS JUST DEPEND ON SHOJI...

AND DIDN'T NOTICE WHERE WE WERE.

I HAD NO REASON TO WATCH WHERE WE WERE GOING.

AND NOW I'VE HIT ROCK BOTTOM.

I WONDER WHERE I'M EVEN STANDING RIGHT NOW.
NANA?
blah
blah
blah
blah
I'M IN TOKYO.
THAT'S RIGHT.
blah
blah
BUT HE COULDN'T REALLY BE...
IS WHERE HE LIVES.
AND TOKYO ...

I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU...
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT'S OVER.
IN THIS CROWDED CITY.
HE FOUND ME...

AT LEAST THE STREETS ARE WELL LIT, AND THERE'S LOTS OF PEOPLE AROUND.
SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND HER WAY BACK.
WELL ...
BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUST DITCHED HER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY LIKE THAT!
I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU LOST IT.
OF COURSE YOU WOULD!
BUT !
SHE WAS DRIVING ME CRAZY. I JUST LOST IT.
OUR CONVERSATION GOT SO WEIRD!

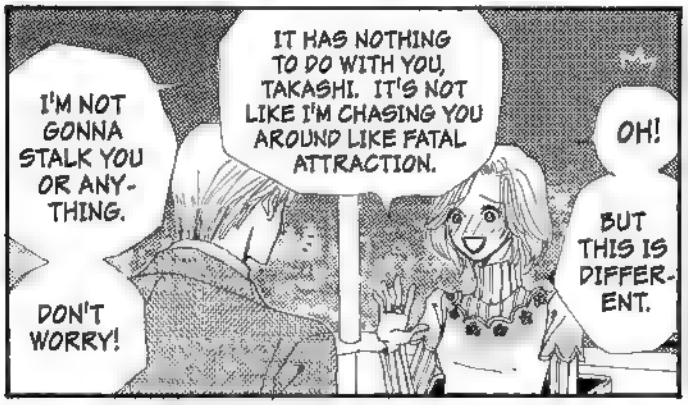
YEAH, RIGHT.
WHAT ?
NOW THAT IT'S COME TO THIS, I GOTTA TELL YOU, SHOJI.
NANA'S IN LOVE WITH YOU.
.....
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH!

SLAM
.....

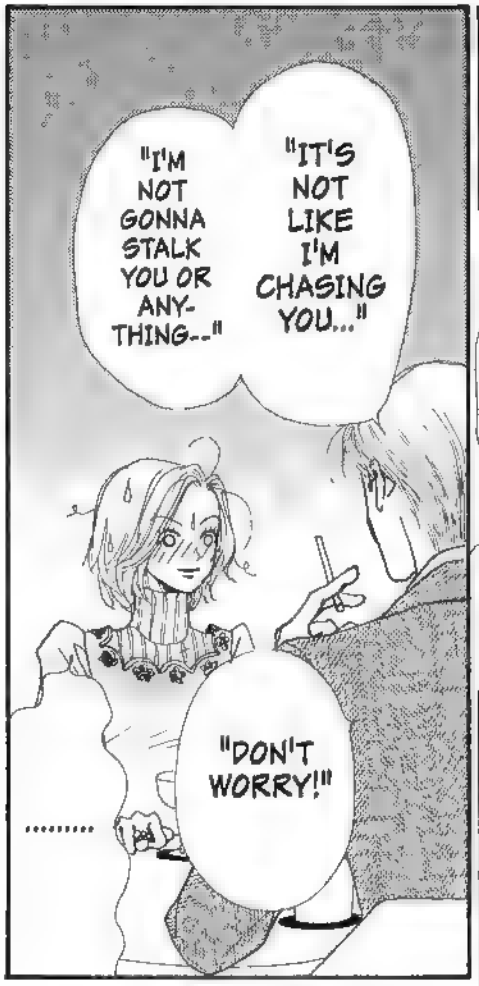
BEFORE YOU WRITE HER OFF, YOU'D BETTER THINK HARD ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU HURT NANA, WHO LOVES YOU, BY TREATING HER THE WAY YOU JUST DID!

PUSH
Y'KNOW, I SORTA THOUGHT SO.
.....
WHAT-EVER, DUDE.
BUT I THOUGHT MAYBE IT WAS JUST MY EGO.
WELL, IF JUNKO SAYS IT, IT'S PROB-ABLY TRUE, DON'T YA THINK?
.....
SLAM
A CLUE-LESS SEARCH PARTY ...
WHAT A CRAZY CREW.
OH WELL.
SIGH

IT SUCKS 'CAUSE I'VE BEEN TRYING SO HARD TO MOVE TO TOKYO.
I'VE RUN OUT OF OPTIONS.
BUT I FAILED SPECTACULARLY TO GET INTO ANY OF THEM...


I'M NOT GONNA STALK YOU OR ANYTHING.
DON'T WORRY!
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, TAKASHI. IT'S NOT LIKE I'M CHASING YOU AROUND LIKE FATAL ATTRACTION.
OH!
BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT.

SO YOU APPLIED TO ART SCHOOL HERE.
REALLY ...


"I'M NOT GONNA STALK YOU OR ANYTHING--"
"IT'S NOT LIKE I'M CHASING YOU..."
"DON'T WORRY!"
.....

I'M SO EMBARRASSED YOU'RE SEEING ME LIKE THIS.
I ACTUALLY THINK I'VE DIGRESSED SINCE HIGH SCHOOL.
OR MY OUTFIT?
LIKE MY HAIR ...
NOT AT ALL ?
YOU DON'T ...
HUH ?
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, NANA.
I...
OH, OKAY.
BUT THIS IS MORE YOU, NANA.

THE WAY YOU TALK HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL.

.....
AND EACH TIME, IT WAS REALLY HARD.
YOU WOULD SAY THAT EVERY TIME WE GOT TO-GETHER.
WHY ?
....
FLICK
REALLY ?
I'M SORRY.
AND EVERY TIME YOU DIDN'T ANSWER WAS HARD ON ME, YA KNOW?
HUH ?
YEAH ...
HEH HEH
EVERY TIME I ASKED YOU WHAT'S WRONG,YOU NEVER SAID ANY-THING.
ARGH...
WELL YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL EITHER, TAKASHI.
BUT AFTER SEEING HIM AGAIN, I JUST CAN'T HATE HIM ANY-MORE.
THE WEIRD THING IS...
I THOUGHT I COULDN'T STAND THIS GUY.
I HAVE TO BELIEVE IT WAS REAL.

I DON'T HAVE TO BEAT MYSELF UP OVER IT.
AND THAT'S OKAY, I SHOULD ACCEPT IT.
AND HE LOVED ME BACK, EVEN IF FOR A MOMENT.
I REALLY DID LOVE HIM.
HEY? MR. ASANO?
OH.
NOW I GET IT!
THIS ALL LOOKS FAMIL-IAR.
JUST GO STRAIGHT DOWN THIS STREET, AND YOU'LL SEE YOUR HOTEL.
OKAY, THANKS.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT ...
AND WHO'S THIS GIRL WITH YOU ?
HM-MM ...
.....
I MIGHT HAVE TO TELL YOUR PRETTY LITTLE WIFE...

blah
blah
.....
HE WAS JUST KIDDING.
IF I MADE SOME LAME EXCUSE, IT'D LOOK MORE SUSPICIOUS.
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
DON'T YOU GOTTA MAKE UP SOME SORT OF EXCUSE?
ALL RIGHT. ♡
THEN TO SHUT YOU UP I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOU OUT SOMETIME.
SEE YOU LATER!
HA HA HA!
IT'S A DEAL...
MAYBE HE CHEATS ALL THE TIME?
HE WAS SO SMOOTH DEALING WITH THAT GUY.
OR IS THERE REALLY SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON?
YEAH, RIGHT.
HUH?
OH, JUST THINKING OUT LOUD.
WELL, THAT'S GOOD. ♡
SO THAT IS YOUR REAL NAME.
WELL, I GUESS I SHOULD GO THEN.

AH HA HA
LIKE I SHOULD CARE.
GOOD.
I'LL TRY NOT TO.
SO NO MORE CHEAT-ING!!
GULP
TAKASHI.
GOOD-BYE...
LOVE YOU.
I REALLY DID...
blah
blah

♫~♪~♫~
HUH?
WHAT A STUPID RING TONE.
GOTTA CHANGE THAT.
RINGRING
RINGRING
HELLO, THIS IS NANA! ♡
HEY, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
AIN'T GOT NO MORE TEARS LEFT TO CRY.
KYOSUKE?
HUH!?
WH--WHO?
YOU SOUND GOOD-- HE MUST'VE FOUND YOU?
OH, WELL, I DIDN'T THINK HE WOULD.
I JUST HOPED IT'D ALL WORK OUT.
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

I'M NEAR THE HOTEL. I'M ALMOST THERE.
YOU FREAKED ME OUT. I THOUGHT YOU MEANT TAKASHI...
WELL, ABOUT AN HOUR AGO, SHOJI AND JUNKO FREAKED OUT AND WENT LOOKING FOR YOU.
I KNEW IF THEY FOUND YOU, IT'D BE CRAZY, LIKE TV DRAMA...
YOU LOVE IT, DON'T YOU, PLAYING MY FEELINGS BY GETTING ALL TEARY-EYED AND SAYING THINGS TO GET ME STOKED?
I AM RIGHT!
YEAH, RIGHT!
AND YOU KNOW IT.
SHOJI'S JUST IN LOVE WITH YOU.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO ME...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
I'M SORRY, I...
BUT I...
SNIFF
OR CRY TO ME EITHER.
BUT...
SOB

KYOSUKE ...
I WONDER WHERE SHOJI IS NOW...
WHO KNOWS ?
BUT HE'S PROBABLY NOT FAR...
DING DONG
Click
BUT FOR NOW, YOU SHOULD JUST GET BACK TO THE HOTEL...
beep beep beep
....
KYOSUKE!
I CAN'T FIND HER!
IT'D BE BETTER TO JUST CALL HER CELL PHONE INSTEAD OF LOOKING FOR HER!
SO YOU FINALLY FIGURED THAT OUT.
ACTUALLY, I'VE ALWAYS LOVED HIM.

BUT I WAS STILL RECOVERING THEN.
MAYBE IT WAS MASOCHISTIC, BUT I WAS SO HURT.
FROM THE MOMENT I FIRST LAID EYES ON HIM...
I THOUGHT HE WAS SO FINE.

I WAS SCARED OF SPREADING MY PAIN.

I COULDN'T HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP.
I COULDN'T TRUST MEN.
BUT SHOJI SEEMED DIFFERENT.
MAYBE NOT REALLY DIFFERENT, BUT HE WAS DIFFERENT TO ME.

YOU ALWAYS WRAPPED ME GENTLY IN YOUR HEART.
WHENEVER I WAS WITH YOU, IT FELT LIKE I WAS BEING HEALED.
RIGHT NOW, WITH THAT WARMTH...
I WANT YOU TO HOLD ME TIGHT.
NANA !!

HOLD ME.
PLEASE...
blah
blah
HA!
WHAT'S WITH THE FACE?
blah
blah
.....
LET'S JUST NOT WORRY ABOUT IT.
I WENT TOO FAR.
UM... I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLI-ER.
HA?

THIS ISN'T WORK-ING!!
HOTEL
BEEP
MAYBE IT'S JUST TOO LATE...
...FOR US TO DATE NOW.
.....
SEV-ENTH FLOOR.
SEVEN ...
IT'S BAD LUCK !!
WELCOME BACK. ♡
CLICK
GOOD NIGHT.
JUN, MAN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT SHOJI DID?!

707
ROOM 707 ...
OH PLEASE, NO...
WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO YOURSELF?
YOU'RE SCARING ME.
I WASN'T TALKING TO MYSELF! I WAS TALKING TO THE DEMON LORD.
That's even scarier!
OH— MAN— I'M EXHAUSTED FROM RUNNING AROUND.
PLOP
TALK ABOUT BEING A PAIN IN THE ASS...
LOOK WHO'S TALKING— YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DITCHED ME!

HEY, NANA...
I REALLY WANT TO MOVE TO TOKYO AND TAKE YOU WITH ME.
HE'S NOT EVEN NERVOUS ANYMORE WHEN WE'RE IN THE SAME ROOM.
HE JUST SEEMS BORED.
I GUESS IT'S NO USE ANYMORE.
I PUSHED SHOJI TOO FAR AWAY.
MAN...
WHY ARE WE BEING SO MEAN TO EACH OTHER...
I HATE THIS.
I SHOULD BE NICE TO THE GUY I LIKE.
PLEASE UNDERSTAND.
AS A "MAN", THAT'S HARD FOR ME.
AND EVEN IF YOU WERE HOMELESS AND DYING, THERE WOULDN'T BE MUCH I COULD DO.
MAYBE IF I WAS A COLLEGE STUDENT, BUT I'M NOT IN YET.
BUT, YA KNOW, I HAVEN'T GOT MY LIFE TOGETHER YET.

THEN ...
THEN I'LL STAY HOME ...
WORK, AND SAVE UP MONEY TO MOVE TO TOKYO!
AND AFTER I MOVE, I'LL TRY TO FIND A JOB THAT PAYS ENOUGH TO LIVE ON MY OWN!
THEN NEXT YEAR, IF YOU GET INTO COLLEGE, I'LL GO TO TOKYO, TOO!
WON'T THAT BE COOL ?
THEN I GUESS I BET-TER GET INTO COL-LEGE.
WATCH OUT DEMON LORD!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
DON'T JUST SHUT DOWN ON ME!
WHAT ?
I GUESS WE CAN FINALLY DO IT!
AW-RIGHT !
NOW THAT WE'VE MADE UP...
WE HAVEN'T EVEN SMOOCHED YET!
LIKE IT'S SOME GOAL...
I GUESS ...
DOESN'T HE KNOW ABOUT GETTING IN THE MOOD ?
.....
I'M USED TO HOLD-ING BACK.
IF YOU DON'T WANNA, WE DON'T HAVE TO.
UM ...
HUH ?
WHAT DO YOU WANNA SAY ABOUT IT?
ALL RIGHT THEN ...
"LOVE"?
MAYBE IF YOU COULD EVEN SAY "I LOVE YOU," I'D DO IT.

AS IF THAT WORD MEANS ANY-THING.
AND YOU CAN'T MAKE A GUY SAY IT!
BUT NO ONE HAS EVER SAID IT TO ME SINCE THE DAY I WAS BORN.
I'D LIKE TO HEAR IT AT LEAST ONCE BE-FORE I DIE.
BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN IF YOU HAVE TO ASK FIRST?
GOD, JUST FORGET IT.
SHOVE
.....
ALL RIGHT, I GET IT.
BUT I'M A DUDE. I'LL SAY IT.
I'LL JUST HAVE TO PRETEND I'M SOMEONE ELSE...
LIKE A SEN-SITIVE GUY.
WHAT?!
POP
I DON'T WANNA, UNLESS IT'S YOU, WEIRDO.
AM I SUP-POSED TO PRETEND I'M DOING IT WITH SOME-ONE ELSE?
I'M GONNA MAKE SOME TEA.
WHADDYA WANT, SEN-SITIVE GUY, GREEN OR ROASTED TEA?
HOT
Slap
Non-Fat
HOT

...TOLD ME YOU LOVED ME.
NANA ...?
SHOJI ...
I HEARD IT...
YOUR HEART ....
I GUESS YOU HEARD IT THEN...

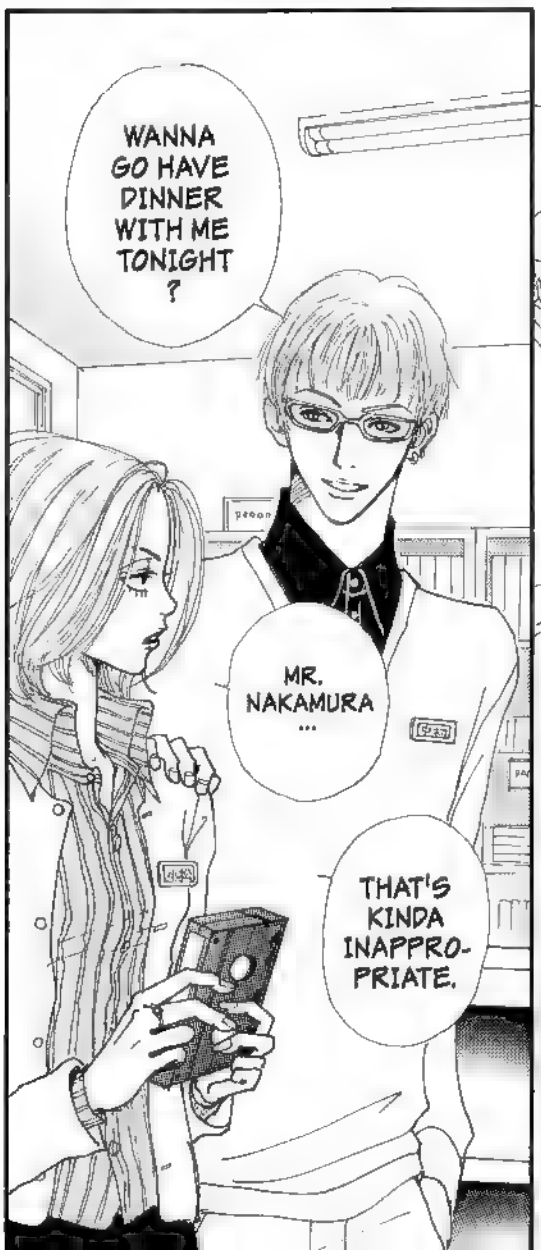
I WANTED TO HAVE A GOOD RELATION-SHIP.
ONE THAT'S ROMANTIC AND DRAMATIC, LIKE IN THE MOVIES.
BUT I FINALLY BECAME A WOMAN AT 17...
AND LEARNED THAT MEN AREN'T REALLY THAT SIMPLE.

OR SO I THOUGHT.

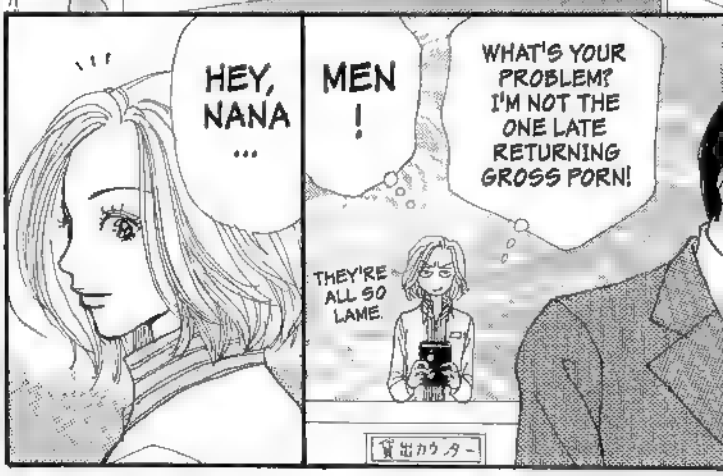
THAT NIGHT HELD THE SWEET TASTE OF HAPPI-NESS
AND MY BODY FELT LIKE IT WAS GONNA MELT.
I HOPE EVERY-THING WORKED OUT WITH THOSE TWO.
I'M WOR-RIED

.....
WELL, THEY SHOULDN'T NEED MY HELP TO GET TOGETHER.
IT'S NOT LIKE THEY'RE IN JUNIOR HIGH.
HEY!
SNORE
DON'T MAKE ME SIT HERE AND TALK TO MYSELF.
Whip
I'M GOING TO BED.
A WOMAN'S LIFE ISN'T SOMETHING TO SNEER AT, IS IT JUN? ♡
Zzz Zzz
FLIP
Zzz Zzz

BUT IT'S A LONG-DISTANCE RELATION-SHIP...

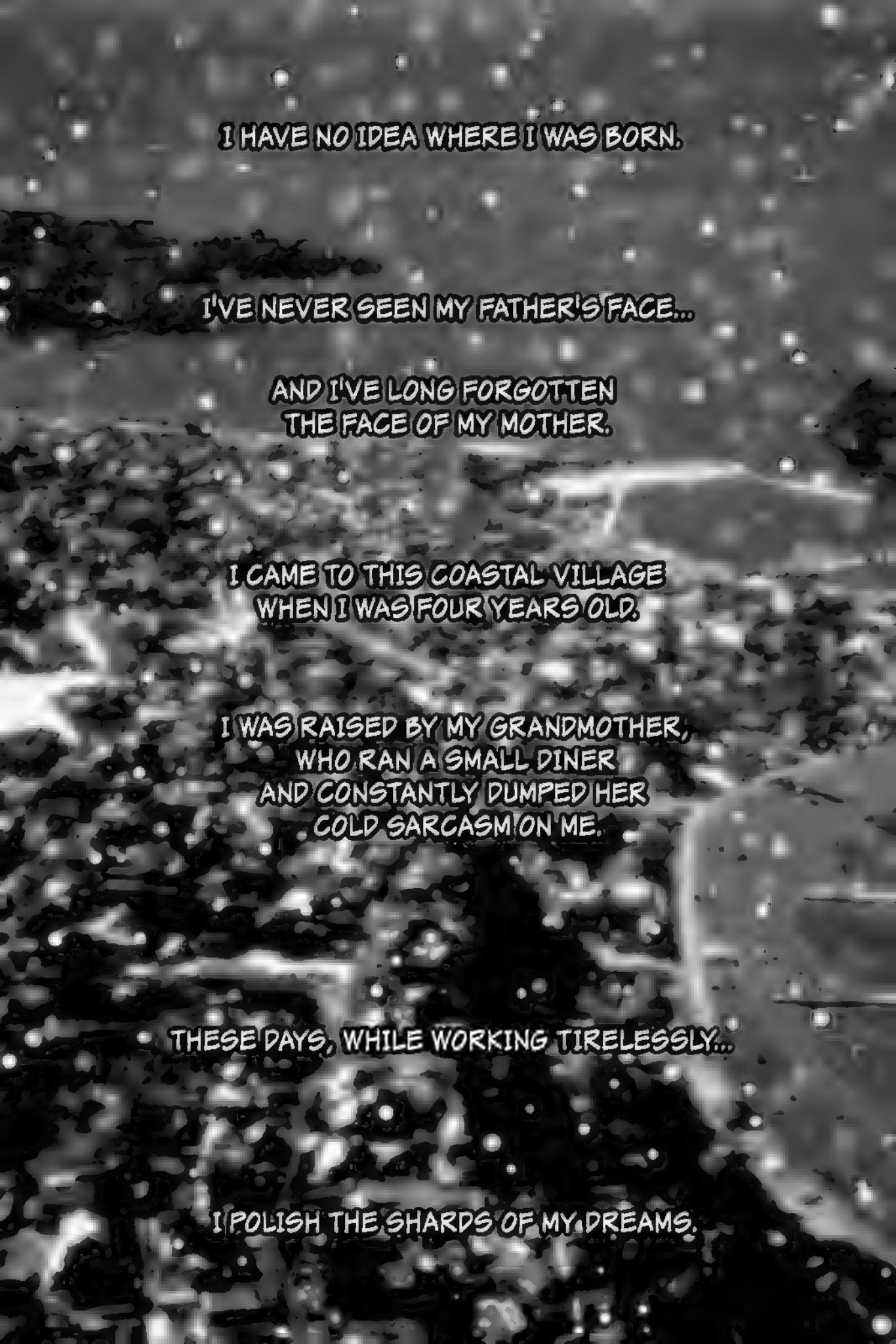

WANNA GO HAVE DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT ?
MR. NAKAMURA ...
THAT'S KINDA INAPPRO-PRIATE.

WHAT ?
VIDEO RENTAL
OH, NOTH-ING.
THAT'LL BE ¥300 IN LATE FEES, SIR.
OH ...
ALL RIGHT.


HEY, NANA ...
MEN !
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? I'M NOT THE ONE LATE RETURNING GROSS PORN!
THEY'RE ALL SO LAME.
出カウンター

YEAH, WHATEVER.
YOU USED TO LIKE ME.
TOO LATE FOR YOU DUDE, 22-YEAR-OLD NAKAMURA.
HE'S YOUNGER THAN I THOUGHT...
OH COME ON, IT'S ONLY DINNER.
... AND SO LOOSE.
AREN'T YOU LONELY WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND OFF IN TOKYO?
...AND PERSISTENT.
UGH...
MAYBE I SHOULD QUIT WORKING THERE.
BUT THE PAY IS GOOD.
YOU SHOULD QUIT, NAKAMURA.
AND I GOTTA HURRY UP AND SAVE MORE TO MOVE TO TOKYO.
I CAN'T WAIT 'TIL SPRING.
♫ RING RING
HI, THIS IS NANA! ♡
OH, HI...
SHOJI?
YEAH! I'M GREAT, MAN!

SHIP, BUT LONG-DISTANCE.
JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE, DEMON LORD!


I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE I WAS BORN.
I'VE NEVER SEEN MY FATHER'S FACE...
AND I'VE LONG FORGOTTEN
THE FACE OF MY MOTHER.
I CAME TO THIS COASTAL VILLAGE
WHEN I WAS FOUR YEARS OLD.
I WAS RAISED BY MY GRANDMOTHER,
WHO RAN A SMALL DINER
AND CONSTANTLY DUMPED HER
COLD SARCASM ON ME.
THESE DAYS, WHILE WORKING TIRELESSLY...
I POLISH THE SHARDS OF MY DREAMS.

NANA

LA-
DIES
AND
GERMS
...
WE'RE
BLAST!
TONIGHT
7:00~
TODAY'S MENU
★Nonsensical
★Scrape
★WONDERWALL
★Blast
CLUB Z

REN
NANA
HEY!
THEY'RE COMING OUT NOW!
OOH!

BOYFRIEND
NO WAY!
IT'S PISS COLD, AND YOU ALL JUST WAITED HERE FOR US?
WOW! THANKS, MAN!
NANA! YOU GUYS WERE AWE-SOME!
EEK EEK
SO CUTE
OH, THANK YOU! ♡
NANA!
SHE'S
HERE'S A PRES-ENT FOR YOU!
HEY, WHAT'S THIS? VIVIENNE WEST-WOOD?!
MISATO, ARE YOU SURE?
THIS IS SUPER EXPEN-SIVE.
YOU...
YOU REMEM-BERED MY NAME?
WOW, I KNEW ?
SO IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY PRESENT. HAPPY 18TH!
NANA, IT WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY LAST WEEK, RIGHT?
YEAH, YOU COME TO EVERY SHOW!
AND YOU'RE CUTE. ♡

Shreeek
COOL, I GOT ME SOME VIVI-ENNE.
Vivienne Westwood
SMOOCH
THANK YOU. ♡
HERE'S TO A GREAT SHOW TONIGHT, GUYS.
ALL RIGHT!
居酒屋
WELL— I GOTTA SAY WE KICKED ASS AT TONIGHT'S BATTLE OF THE BANDS.

ISN'T GRADUATION TOMORROW?
YOU BETTER STOP.
NOBU...
ARE YOU GOING TO HIS GRADUATION, NANA?
LIMITED EDITION. I WONDER HOW MUCH THIS COST?
IT'S A JACKET! THAT'S SO COOL!
WHOA!
BUT THEY ALL DRESS UP LIKE NANA... PRETTY SCARY.
THAT EYELINER.
TO THINK THE DAY WOULD COME IN MY LIFE WHEN GIRLS WOULD LIKE ME!
I BET MOST OF THE PEOPLE THERE TONIGHT WERE OUR FANS.
HAPPINESS
I BET THAT GIRL IS GETTIN' PUMMELED BY THE OTHER FANS RIGHT NOW.
I FEEL BAD FOR HER.
HEY MISS, REFILL?
SUPER-SIZE ME!
PURE EVIL.
HEY!
I GUESS MY KISS'LL COST HER IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.
HEH HEH!
WHAT A SARCASTIC BASTARD.
HEY, THE LAW STUDENT'S LAUGHING.
AH HA HA!
DON'T BRAG!
SO WHAT? I ONLY GRADUATED FROM JUNIOR HIGH!
EXCUSE ME FOR BEING A HIGH SCHOOL DROP-OUT!
I DID IT 'CAUSE YOU LOOKED SO LONELY ALL THE TIME.
YEAH, RIGHT.
YOU WERE SO OBNOXIOUS.
YOU TOTALLY STALKED ME.
YOU LIAR.
HEH HEH
I CAN SEE IT NOW... NOBU STALKING NANA.
SHOW ME SOME LOVE!
I WAS YOUR ONLY FRIEND.
I WAS SO SCARED I WOULDN'T EVEN TALK TO HER.
SHE WAS SERIOUSLY SCARY.
YOU REALLY WOULDN'T WANNA SEE IT, YASU.
DID SHE WEAR BAGGY SOCKS?
MAN, I WISH I COULDA SEEN NANA IN A SCHOOL UNIFORM.

Let's hear it for BL aaaa

ABOUT THAT THING ...
I'LL TALK TO NOBU.
MAKE SURE AND TELL NANA.
WHAT ?
THAT THING...
WELL, THE REASON YASU'S A SKINHEAD IS 'CAUSE HE START-ED TO GROW A LITTLE BALD SPOT.
THOSE WHO LAUGH AT BALDY WILL CRY WHEN THEY GO BALD!
WOW, PLAYING LIVE IS IT FOR ME, MAN.
HOW CAN I SAY IT?
OR-GAS-MIC?
OOOH-- IT FELT SO GOOD IT WAS DANGER-OUS!
HA HA!
THAT'S COOL, MAN.
YEAH. IT WAS SO RAD. ♡
I FEEL... SO~~~ GREAT~~~
BETTER THAN DOING IT WITH A GUY?
I GUESS THAT DEPENDS ON THE GUY. ♡

Whoosh
OH-HH...
IT'S FREEZ-ING!!
I'M GONNA GET SICK!
WHAT IF I LOSE MY BEAU-TIFUL SINGING VOICE?!
WE TRY TO LOOK COOL, BUT WE'RE HOT IN THE SUMMER AND COLD IN THE WINTER!
SOME-THING WE CAN WRAP AROUND US.
THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME-THING...
MAN, INCON-SIDERATE FANS.
IS THERE AN INSTANT HAND WARMER IN HERE?
GOT IT.

COOL
!!

REN·NANA
REN HONJO
NANA OSAKI
IT WAS A BLIZZARD JUST LIKE THIS.
...WE FIRST MET?
'MEMBER WHEN ...
HEY, REN ...
WITH GIRLS FALLING ALL OVER ME...I WAS TOTALLY FULL OF MYSELF... JUST SCREWING AROUND, YA KNOW.
YEAH, WHEN I WAS PLAYING GUITAR FOR THAT OTHER BAND...
YEAH, WHAT-EVER.
....
TWO YEARS AND THREE MONTHS AGO.
YEAH, AT THE CHRISTMAS SHOW, A COUPLE YEARS AGO.
... REALLY ?
YEAH, I REMEM-BER.

I WAS SO PISSED, LIKE "WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?!"
YOU WERE STANDING FRONT AND CENTER, JUST GLARING AT ME, STIFF AS A CORPSE.
HUMPH
GO ON ...
....
SNAP
YOU WERE WEARING A RED DRESS THAT NIGHT.
YOU WERE THE MOST UNIMPRESSED AUDIENCE MEMBER EVER.
I COULDN'T FORGET IT EVEN IF I WANTED TO.
RAIN MAN.
YOU EVEN REMEMBER WHAT I WORE ...
... WAS I?
NO SMILE.
"I'M NANA."
YOU WERE SO HARSH.
THAT'S IT.
AND THEN NOBU DRAGGED YOU BACKSTAGE AFTERWARDS.
... WELL, EXCUUUSE ME!
DOWN, GIRL.
YOU'RE THE DUDE WHO STOLE MY VIRGINITY!
DID NOT! I WAS FALSELY ACCUSED!
YOU JUST COULDN'T BE NICE...
IF IT KILLED YOU.
'CAUSE YOU GOT CAUGHT TURNING TRICKS AND GOT EXPELLED!
SURE.
I HAD A LOT GOING ON THEN. I WAS JUST BEING ANTI-SOCIAL.

I THOUGHT IT WAS MY ONLY CHANCE, 'CAUSE I WAS THINKING ABOUT QUITTING SCHOOL SO I COULD WORK.
YOU LOOKED BEATEN UP.
... YEAH ...
I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE THE ENERGY TO FREAK OUT BACK THEN.
Y'KNOW, I'M SURPRISED YOU TOOK IT SO QUIETLY CONSIDERING HOW HOT-HEADED YOU ARE.
MY GRANDMA NEVER GAVE ME A CENT.
I NEEDED MONEY.
.....
WHY WOULD YOU WANNA WORK ANY MORE THAN THAT?
BUT WEREN'T YOU BEING USED LIKE A SERVANT BY YOUR MEAN OLD GRANDMOTHER?
BUT YOU'RE NOT A KID ANYMORE, SO YOUR LIFE NOW IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT.
IT'S NOT FUNNY!!
AH HA HA!
EVERYONE ELSE HAD MONEY FROM THEIR 'RENTS TO DO WHATEVER THEY WANTED.
EVER SINCE I WAS A KID, YA KNOW?
I THOUGHT, "WHY AM I THE ONLY KID WITH NOTHING?"
SORRY.
I KNOW, I KNOW.
SCRUB SCRUB

AT HER AGE, A SINGLE WOMAN RUNNING A SHOP AND RAISING A KID, IT MUST'VE BEEN REALLY HARD.
YEAH, SHE WAS A MEAN OLD LADY, BUT...
NO WONDER SHE WAS SO NASTY.
AND IT WASN'T UNTIL RECENTLY THAT I REALIZED HOW LUCKY I WAS TO EVEN HAVE MY GRANDMA.
IT IS, ISN'T IT?
I NEVER GOT TO TELL HER I APPRECIATED HER BEFORE SHE DIED.
IT WAS LIKE I'D KILLED HER.
SHE GOT INCREDIBLY DEPRESSED WHEN I DIDN'T DENY THE PROSTITUTION CHARGE.
SHE DIED OF SHOCK WHEN I GOT KICKED OUTTA HIGH SCHOOL.
LIKE WHAT ...?
BUT I DID SOMETHING WORSE.
.... HOW BAD COULD IT BE?
.... SHE BECAME BEDRIDDEN, AND IN LESS THAN A MONTH, SHE GOT SICK AND DIED.
BUT THERE WERE TIMES I GOT SO PISSED OFF AT HER I WANTED TO PUSH HER.
THEN I'D REALLY BE A KILLER!
DID YOU PUSH HER DOWN A FLIGHT OF STAIRS?
GOOD THING YOU DIDN'T.
.....

I THINK SHE LOST THE WILL TO LIVE.
I SHOULD'VE DENIED THE CHARGES, FOR HER...
I KNOW I TOLD YOU ABOUT IT BEFORE.
MY MOTH-ER ...
...WHEN I WAS FOUR YEARS OLD, SHE SENT ME TO GRAND-MA'S AND JUST DISAPPEARED.
LIKE A PROVERB, GRANDMA WOULD ALWAYS TELL ME...
...THAT MY MOTHER HAD ME WITHOUT EVER KNOW-ING WHO MY FATHER WAS.
THAT SHE WAS THE TYPE OF GIRL WHO'D RUN OFF WITH A GUY 'CAUSE I GOT IN THE WAY.
AND THAT I SHOULD NEVER GROW UP TO BE LIKE HER.
THAT'S WHY SHE NEVER LET ME WEAR PINK OR RED.
SHE SAID IF I DRESSED LIKE THAT, IT MEANT I WAS SEDUCING MEN. ♡
BUT I WAS A GIRL, YA KNOW?
I WANTED TO WEAR CUTESY CLOTHES.
YOU WANT IT MORE WHEN YOU CAN'T HAVE IT.
LAUGH ALL YOU WANT !
BUT WHEN YOU'RE RAISED LIKE THAT, YOU GET BRAIN-WASHED INTO BE-LIEVING IT.
RAIS-ING A CHILD IS A KIND OF BRAIN-WASH-ING.
AH HA HA!
TERROR

SO OF COURSE, I BOUGHT A BRIGHT RED FRILLY DRESS.
I DECIDED TO BUY POOR OLD ME A CHRISTMAS PRESENT WITH MONEY I'D SAVED FROM WORK.
SO AFTER LOSING GRANDMA, I WAS ALL ALONE.
'CAUSE NOBU SAID HE'D INTRODUCE ME TO SOME SUPER COOL DUDE.
I REMEMBER WEARING IT TO THE SHOW THAT NIGHT... I WAS SO PSYCHED...
AND IT LOOKED LIKE I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE.
THAT'S BECAUSE THERE WAS SUCH AN AMAZING LADY STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
YOU JUST TOLD ME YOU WERE TOTALLY PISSED OFF.
YEAH, RIGHT.
WHATEVER ...
YOU SEDUCED ME WITH THAT FRILLY RED DRESS!
SO YOUR GRANDMA WAS RIGHT!

I HID THAT RED DRESS ...
UNDER MY COAT.
AND RAN THROUGH THE BLIZ-ZARD.
LIVE HOUSE
HE WAS AHEAD OF ME IN JUNIOR HIGH.
HE'S TWO YEARS OLDER.
HE'S TOTALLY COOL.
I'LL INTRODUCE HIM TO YOU LATER.
YOU'RE GONNA LOVE HIM.
I DON'T NEED THAT KIND OF GUY.
REN'S A GREAT GUY, AS LONG AS YOU CAN IGNORE HIS WOMANIZING AND THE GIRLS HANGING ALL OVER HIM.
NEEDS AN OPEN-MINDED GUY.
I'M TELLING YOU, MAN, A PROBLEM CHILD LIKE YOU...
I'M JUST GOING FOR THE SHOW.
OH DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I GUESS REN WAS ABANDONED IN THE HARBOR WAREHOUSE DISTRICT RIGHT AFTER HE WAS BORN.
IT WAS EVEN ON THE NEWS.
ACTUALLY...
.....
YOU'D LIKE HIM IF YOU JUST MET HIM AND TALKED TO HIM.
HE'S A LOT MORE TOGETHER THAN MOST PEOPLE WE KNOW.
HE GREW UP IN FOSTER CARE, SO I THINK HE PROBABLY ALSO HAD A HARD LIFE.
NOBUO ...
YOU SHOULDN'T GOSSIP ABOUT PEOPLE'S PERSONAL STUFF LIKE THAT.
HE CLAIMS IT AS HIS BIRTHPLACE.
AND TO TOP IT OFF, REN'S LIVING IN THAT SAME WAREHOUSE DISTRICT TODAY.
HE'S ALWAYS BRAGGING THAT THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE WHO CAN SAY THEY'VE BEEN IN THE NEWS SINCE THE DAY THEY WERE BORN.
HE BRAGS ABOUT IT?
REN ALWAYS BRAGS ABOUT IT.
NO, IT'S COOL.
HE SAYS HIS SCANDALOUS PERSONAL HISTORY GIVES HIM SEX APPEAL!
REN WANTS TO BE A BIG ROCK STAR.
.....
HOW LAME.
HE'S MARKETING HIS PERSONAL MISFORTUNE AND TRYING TO BUY PITY.
WHAT ?!
IT'S SO COOL, MAN!
GIMME A BREAK, THAT'S STUPID.

NAILED ME TO THE FLOOR.
BUT THE GUY UP ON STAGE ...

SO THIS IS THE GUY THEY SAY WAS ABANDONED IN THE HARBOR WAREHOUSE DISTRICT...
...THE STORY HE BRAGS ABOUT.

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT.
WHAT CAME OVER ME THAT NIGHT...
IT WASN'T SO SIMPLE ...
AS "LOVE" OR "DESIRE."
MORE LIKE JEAL-OUSY, ENVY ...
A SENSE OF UNEAS-INESS ...
AND NEED.

I STILL GET INSECURE EVERY NOW AND THEN.

...IS JUST A DREAM.
BECAUSE IT FEELS LIKE EVERY DAY WITH REN...
SID & NANCY
LOVE KILLS
REN WAS TOO GLAMOROUS FOR THE MUNDANE LIFE I'D BEEN LIVING UP 'TIL THEN.
NO MATTER HOW I'VE STRUGGLED, I COME UP LACKING, STILL.
I WISH WE COULD DO IT IN A BIGGER PLACE.
YEAH, THAT BATHTUB'S TOO SMALL.
I MEAN PLAYING A SHOW!
WE'VE GOT A LOT OF FANS NOW. I THINK WE SHOULD TRY TO PLAY A BIGGER PLACE.

DON'T ACT LIKE IT'S JUST ON ME...
.....
WHY DON'T YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN ?
A LITTLE BALD SPOT IS SERIOUS BUSI-NESS.
IS IT ABOUT THE BAND ?
HE SOUNDED SERI-OUS.
WHAT WAS YASU TALKING ABOUT WHEN WE WERE ALL GOING HOME?
SO ANY-WAYS ...
WHAT-EVER, JUNKIE.
I GOTTA TAKE MY DRUGS ...
I'LL JUST ASK YASU.
WHAT-EVER ...
SINCE I DIDN'T GO TO HIGH SCHOOL, I WORKED HARD MANUAL LABOR JOBS, SO I'M ACTUALLY PRETTY FLUSH.
WE'D HAVE A BABY.
I'D BE TOTALLY FINE WITH ONE OR TWO KIDS.
WHAT WOULD WE DO IF I GOT PREG-NANT ?!
AS IF! I'M TALKIN' ABOUT BIRTH CONTROL, YOU LOSER! IF I FORGET TO TAKE IT, WE'RE IN BIG TROUBLE. AND YOU KNOW IT!
YOU'RE SUCH A BUM!

I WANNA PLAY MUSIC AND HAVE A LIFE.
WELL, EVEN IF YOU'RE FINE WITH IT, I'M NOT.
NANA ...

I'M GOING TO TOKYO.
SO YOU CAN HAVE WHATEVER LIFE YOU WANT.

TOKYO ...?
Splash
SO NOW WHAT?
WHAT ABOUT COLLEGE, YASU? ARE YOU GONNA DROP OUT?
I DIDN'T SAY ME-REN.
WEREN'T YOU GONNA BE A LAWYER?
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
TRAP...
TRAP-NEST.
WHEN REN AND I WERE IN OUR OTHER BAND, THERE WAS THIS BAND WE ALWAYS PLAYED AGAINST IN THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS?
'MEMBER THAT ONE BAND?
OH YEAH, T-NEST!
tap
THE BAND THAT HAD THAT RAD GIRL SINGER!
WE USED TO BE DRINKING BUDDIES AND GOT PRETTY FRIENDLY.
ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO THEY ALL MOVED TO TOKYO TO TRY AND MAKE IT.
THEY JUST GOT SIGNED.
No way!
Un-believ-able!

THEY WERE REALLY GOOD...
BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
WHEN THEY WERE ABOUT TO RELEASE THEIR RECORD, THEY HAD "IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES" AND THE GUITARIST QUIT.
SO THE REST OF THEM DECIDED TO...
...ASK REN TO JOIN THEIR BAND.
REN LEFT THIS MORNING TO MEET WITH THEIR PRODUCER IN TOKYO.
BUT THEY ALREADY KNOW WHAT A GREAT AXE MAN HE IS.
SO IT'S REALLY JUST A FORMALITY. IT'S PRACTICALLY A DONE DEAL.

WHAT THE HELL ...?!
HE HASN'T MOVED TO TOKYO YET.
HE'LL BE COMING BACK FOR A BIT TOMOR-ROW.
BUT HE IS MOVING TO TOKYO, ISN'T HE?
WHAT ABOUT BLAST ?
WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO ?
WE'VE BEEN A BAND FOR ONLY A YEAR AND A HALF.
THINGS WERE JUST START-ING TO TAKE OFF. I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...
NO BIG DEAL.
WE CAN FIND ANYONE TO PLAY BASS.
I'M SURE WE'LL FIND SOMEONE RIGHT AWAY.
BUT ...
I JUST DON'T GET IT.
WHY WOULD HE SCREW US LIKE THAT?
IT'D BE STUPID FOR REN TO JUST STAY IN THIS STALE OLD TOWN FOREVER, WASTING AWAY.

I DON'T WANNA GAMBLE MY LIFE AWAY LIKE THAT.
I DON'T KNOW... I DON'T WANNA MAKE MUSIC BE MY WHOLE LIFE.
BLAST OFF TOKYO!
THEN LET'S FOLLOW REN TO TOKYO AND GO FOR IT, TOO!
WELL, WE COULD TRY!
WHO SAYS WE'D GET SIGNED, TOO?
BUT WHY ?!
NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRY, A LOT OF BANDS JUST DON'T MAKE IT.
REN WILL HAVE TO MAKE T-NEST HIS PRIORITY.
AND EVEN IF WE ALL MOVED TO TOKYO...
NO MATTER WHAT, HE SHOULD GO FOR IT.
THIS IS HIS CHANCE.
I DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN TO REN.
Blast
Cherry

BUT JUST 'CAUSE T-NEST GOT SIGNED DOESN'T MEAN THEY'LL "MAKE IT"...
I THINK THEY'LL DO GOOD.
MAYBE, BUT...
THEY HAVE THE RIGHT SOUND AND IMAGE.
ADD REN TO THE MIX AND THEY'VE GOT IT MADE.
IF YOU WAN-NA GO TO TOKYO, JUST GO !
BUT DON'T STAND IN REN'S WAY !
BESIDES, YOU'RE GONNA IN-HERIT THE TERASHIMA INN, ANY-WAY.
THAT'S WHY YOU CAN RUN AROUND WITHOUT A JOB.
YOU JUST DON'T GET IT!
BUT ?!
.....
YOU CAN'T TRY TO MAKE IT IN MUSIC AND TAKE OVER THE FAMILY BUSINESS AT THE SAME TIME.
JUST DO THE BAND AS A SIDE PROJECT.
BUT ...
WHAT ABOUT NANA ...?
WILL REN...
JUST SPLIT ON NANA?

DON'T BE TALKIN' THAT SMACK.
HE HAS TO TAKE HER WITH!
WHAT THE HELL ...
"DON'T LEAVE HER!"
"TAKE HER WITH!"
AS IF NANA'S JUST REN'S PET CAT OR SOMETHING.
?
.....
SHE'S AN INDEPENDENT WOMAN, SUCCESSFUL IN HER OWN RIGHT.
IF SHE WANTS TO GO WITH HIM, SHE'LL GO.
THAT'S NANA'S CALL.
I'M SURE REN'S THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
YASU... YOU'RE SO MATURE.
LEAVE IT TO THE DRUMMER, HE'S THE OLDEST.
JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE SUCH A KID.
BUT IF NANA MOVES TO TOKYO WITH REN...
BLAST WILL HAVE TO BREAK UP.

...NOBU, TO FIND NEW BAND MEMBERS.

IT'S UP TO YOU...

HEY NOBU...
WANNA BE IN A BAND WITH US?

WHAT?
WHY?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR OTHER BAND?
WE BROKE UP.
THEY SUCK.
THEY DON'T CARE ANY-MORE.
THEY DON'T EVEN COME TO PRACTICE, BUT STILL BITCH AND MOAN.
...HUH...
Splash
NOBUO'S ROOM, TERASHIMA INN
YOU PLAYED GUITAR FOR FUN IN JUNIOR HIGH, DIDN'T YOU?
REN TOLD ME YOU TOTALLY SHRED. YOU CAN'T QUIT NOW.
WHA?
I CAN PLAY BASS, SO YOU COULD PLAY GUITAR.
ALL RIGHT, MAN!

YEAH, BUT ...
CAN A GUY WHO SAT OUT FOR A YEAR AND A HALF STILL SHRED?
IT'S COOL, MAN! I STILL PLAY EVERY DAY AT HOME!
I CAN PLAY ALL YOUR SONGS, REN!
AND I HAVE MY OWN SONGS, TOO.
WELL, LET'S DO IT!
SO ...
WHAT ABOUT VOCALS? WHO'S GONNA SING?
click click
IF POSSIBLE, I WANT A GIRL.
I'M SICK OF DRAMA DUDES
THAT'S THE PROBLEM.
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
IF SHE CAN SING, GREAT...
BUT IT'D BE COOL IF SHE WAS HOT, TOO.
NOBU! A GIRL! FIND US A GIRL SINGER!
A FOXY ONE!
....
GREAT ALREADY THE GO-FER
IF YOU WANT A GIRL, THERE'S ALWAYS TONS SWARMING AROUND YOU, REN.
STOP TALKING SMACK, DUDE.
YOU KNOW WHAT'D HAPPEN IF A GIRL I DID IT WITH WAS IN THE BAND?
IT'D BE THE SOURCE OF ALL EVIL.
IT'D RUIN EVERY-THING.
MAYBE IT'D WORK OUT WITH SOME REAL LOVE.
....

HUH ?
IS SHE HOT?
IT'S A GIRL!
BUT YOU MET HER BEFORE.
YEAH.
YOU LAUGH AT LOVE. LOVE WILL MAKE YOU CRY.
HEH HEH
HE SAID "LOVE."
KNOCK KNOCK
NANA ?
YEAH, SEND HER UP.
CAN SHE COME UP?
NOBUO, A FRIEND OF YOURS IS HERE.
NANA.

YOU KNOW, NANA.

THE AFTER-NOON SEA BREEZE STUCK TO MY SKIN.
WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER...
THE SECOND TIME I SAW REN...

FROM THAT DAY ON, I WAS LIKE...

SWAYING TO REN'S GRAVITA-TIONAL PULL.
THE ROAR OF THE SEA...
MY HEART FLOAT-ED...
HIGH-ER...
HIGH-ER...
HIGH-ER.

AND THIS GAVE VOICE TO MY INNER DESIRES.
I WANT YOU TO SING IN THE BAND!
HEY, NANA!

BOOKS
ART SPACE
I SING EVERY DAY...
FOR MY-SELF.
FOR REN.
BUT I WASN'T SINGING ...
BONK

YOU TOOK GIRLS' MONEY ?!
WHAT ELSE CAN YOU EXPECT FROM BLAST'S GUITARIST?!
HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK MY SECOND BUTTON SOLD FOR?
CHECK IT OUT ...
NO BUTTONS LEFT ON MY UNI-FORM.
HEY LOOK !
Certificate of Graduation
NOBUO TERASHIMA
JEAL-OUS MUCH ?
HOW ARE YOU BUSY ?
YEAH RIGHT, THE STORE'S EMPTY.
BEAT IT SHRIMP, I'M BUSY.
YOU GONNA MOVE TO TOKYO WITH HIM?
WHATCHA GONNA DO?
SO, I HEARD ABOUT REN.
NOT THAT THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH MANGA...
YOU SHOULD TRY READING A BOOK INSTEAD OF JUST MANGA!
I'M BUSY READ-ING!
Season of Battle
FINE, GO TO TOKYO, AND I'LL GO, TOO!
AW, YOU'RE HERE TO TRY AND STOP ME. WILL YOU MISS ME?
SNICKER.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?
LET'S MOVE THE BAND TO TOKYO.
DON'T YOU WANNA SEE HOW FAR WE CAN GO WITH IT?
I'M NOT SAYING IT'LL BE EASY, BUT...
I THINK WE SHOULD AT LEAST TRY.
I THINK WITH YOUR VOICE WE CAN MAKE IT, NANA.
YOU'RE NOT PATSY CLINE OR ANY-THING...
BUT YOUR VOICE IS HUSKY AND COOL... UNIQUE.
I WANNA GO FOR IT.
I DON'T WANNA PLAY GUITAR WITH ANY OTHER SINGER...

'CAUSE THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR FROM REN...
NOT JUST FROM YOU.
HE SAID HE'LL QUIT FOR GOOD IF YOU LEAVE.
YASU THINKS SO, TOO.
DON'T SAY THAT...
WHY NOT?
BUT I'M NOT MOVING...
OPEN
THANK YOU, NOBU...

EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT IN A BAND TOGETHER, YOU CAN STILL LIVE TOGETHER.
ARE YOU SPLIT-TING UP WITH REN?
BUT WHY NOT?
I CAN'T DO THAT!
THAT'S PROOF HE'S IN LOVE WITH YOU.
I KNOW THAT...
THAT PLAYER DIDN'T CHEAT ON YOU ONCE.
REN WON'T THINK YOU'RE IN THE WAY IF YOU MOVE WITH HIM.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
NANA ...
MY LIFE DOESN'T REVOLVE AROUND SCREWING REN!
..... OF COURSE YOU KNOW...
HE'S YOUR BOY-FRIEND.
I WANNA BE A REAL SINGER.
.....
I KNOW, BUT...

SO LIVE WITH HIM.
I LOVE HIM.
IF I MOVE NOW, I'LL JUST END UP LIVING WITH REN. I COULDN'T NOT LIVE WITH HIM.
WHY NOT ?
MAN, I DON'T GET YOU.
I'D JUST BE WAITING AROUND AT HOME, WITH NO BAND OF MY OWN, MAKING MISO SOUP, WHILE REN GETS FAMOUS IN A BAND WITH A BETTER GIRL SINGER.
I DON'T WANNA RIGHT NOW.
THEN LET'S MOVE TO TOKYO!
I GOT PRIDE ...
I AIN'T DOIN' THAT.

EVEN IF IT'S ON MY OWN, I'LL GO.
AND THEN I'LL GO TO TOKYO.
I'LL LEARN TO SING ON MY OWN WITHOUT REN...
AND TAKING SINGING LESSONS ...
SO I'M STAY-ING PUT...
I'M SORRY NOBU, BUT UNTIL THEN, I WANT YOU TO STICK WITH ME.

IT WAS CHRIST-MAS NIGHT.
REN AND I HOOKED UP...
ABOUT A YEAR AFTER WE FIRST MET.
NOT REALLY, WHY ?
YOU REALLY DON'T WANNA SING WITH-OUT ME PLAYING GUITAR?
WE SCREWED AROUND TOGETHER...
ON TOP OF THE SNOW COVERED BREAKWATER.
SO ONE NIGHT AFTER PLAYING A SHOW ...
MY ATTRAC-TION TO HIM NEVER WENT AWAY.

HOW SWEET... ♡
A HOME-MADE CAKE!
Merry Xmas NANA
I FEEL SO SPECIAL.
LET'S EAT! ♡
"NANA MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING GOING ON WITH REN SO DIE" CAKE.
FROM ONE OF MY FANS.
MIGHT BE POI-SONED ...
.....
.....
THEN CHECK IT.
HEY, I DON'T WANNA BE OFFED BY SOME RANDOM FREAK.
.....
ME, NEITHER.

IT HAP-PENED SO FAST ...
I FOR-GOT TO CLOSE MY EYES.
THIS MAKES IT A FREAK I KNOW...
SO NOW I CAN DIE IN PEACE.
I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA DIE...
'CAUSE I WANTED REN.
I WANTED HIM SO BAD I COULDN'T DEAL...

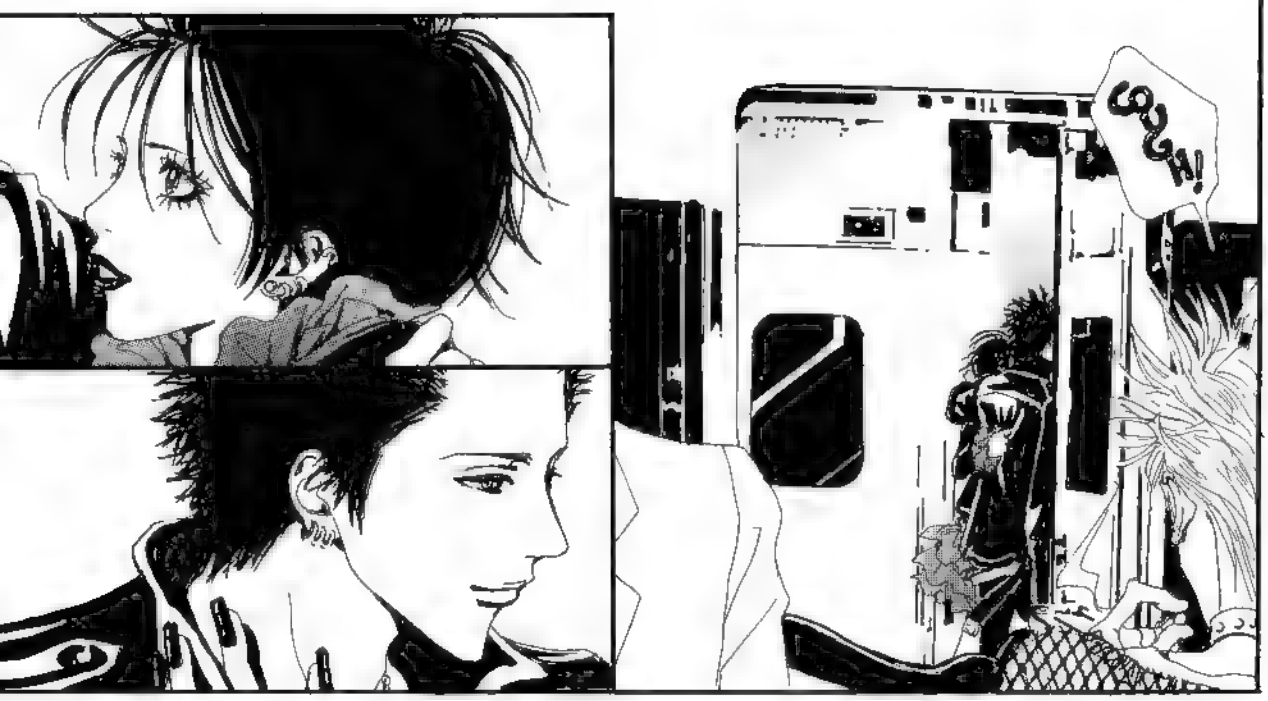
DIDN'T YOU SAY, FOR THE SAKE OF THE BAND ...
NO ONE SHOULD GO OUT WITH NANA?
...EVER SINCE THAT FIRST NIGHT.
IT'S COOL MAN.
I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED RIGHT HERE.
...ARE YOU FOR REAL?
.....

SID & NANCY
LOVE KILLS
WE MOVED IN TOGETHER RIGHT AWAY.
REN HONJO
NANA OSAKI
TO SING MY GUTS OUT ...
TO LEARN GUITAR ...
AND TO REALLY LIVE.
REN INSPIRED ME...

DOCUMENTAIRE VISUEL
TOKYO
BUT WHAT COULD I...
OFFER REN?
MAYBE IF I QUIT SING-ING ...
AND MOVED TO TOKYO WITH REN ...
I COULD MAKE DINNER FOR US EVERY DAY AND CLEAN THE APART-MENT.
AND HAVE HIS CHIL-DREN.
IS THAT WHAT I SHOULD BE DOING?
THAT MIGHT BE MORE THAN ENOUGH HAPPINESS.

MIGHT BE THE BEST THING FOR US.
INSTEAD OF CHASING PIPE DREAMS...
CREATING AN ALTERNATIVE FAMILY...
NEITHER OF US HAD FAMILIES.
STATION
IS THAT ALL YOU'RE TAKING ?

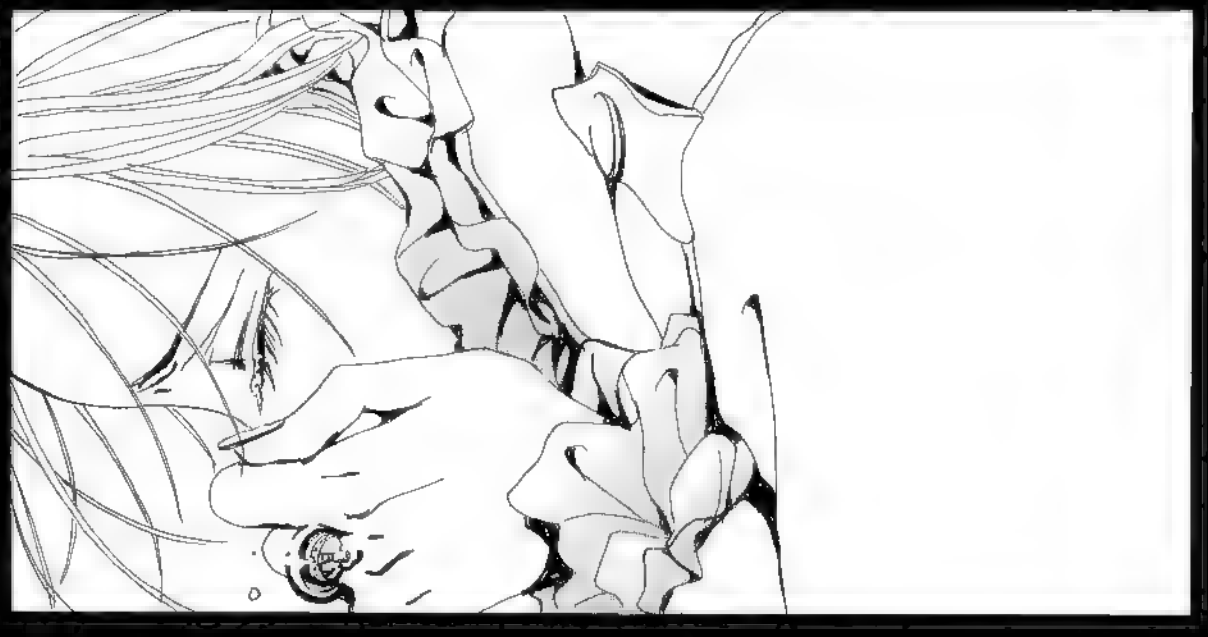
WELL, I GUESS IT'S TIME.
I CAN SEE THE HARDSHIP ALREADY.
YEAH, 'CAUSE NOW YOU WON'T HAVE ME TO BOSS AROUND AND CARRY YOUR STUFF.
YEAH, RIGHT.
SOME-THING ABOUT NOT LIKING "HEAVY STUFF"
HE'S SENDING IT ALL THROUGH A DELIVERY SERVICE.
LIKE ADAM* FROM "THE EVIL EYE."
GUITAR AND CIGAR-ETTES, THAT'S ALL I NEED.
YEP.
* Adam is a character from a previous Ai Yazawa manga.


Ooh!

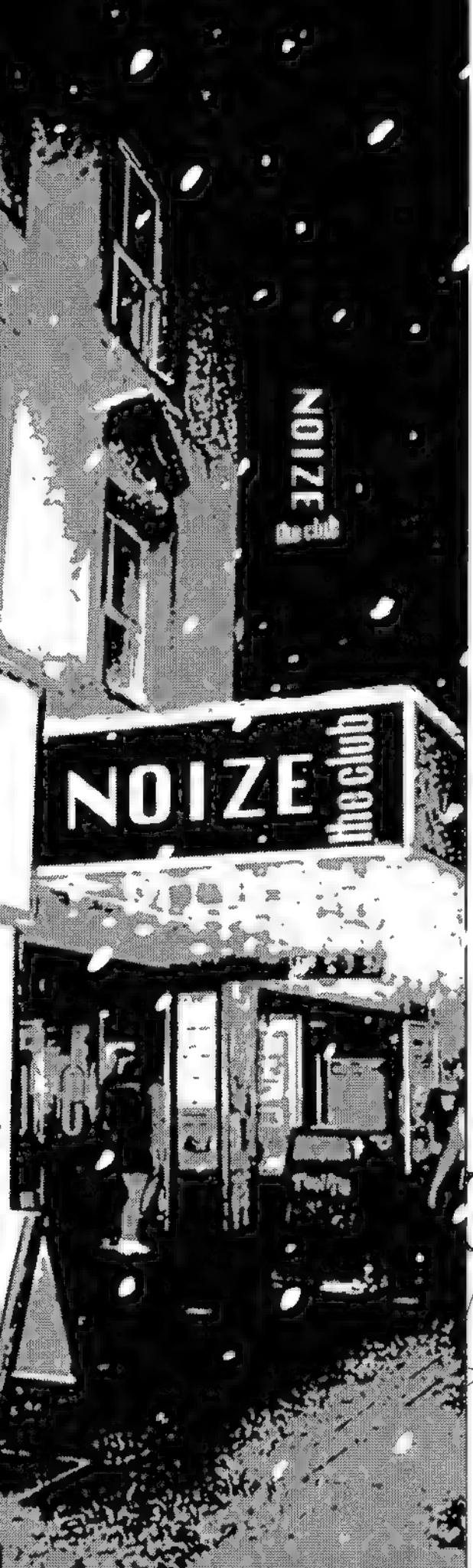
CLANG
CLANG

IT'D BEEN ONE YEAR AND THREE MONTHS SINCE I MOVED IN WITH REN...
RIGHT AROUND THE BEGIN-NING OF SPRING, WHEN THERE WAS STILL SNOW ON THE GROUND.

IT
WAS
OVER.



I COULD FEEL IT.
MANI-FESTED IT-SELF IN BED EVERY NIGHT.
THE LONE-LINESS THAT REN COULDN'T EX-PRESS ...
THERE'S NO MEAN-ING WITH-OUT TOUCH.
THERE WAS NO REA-SON TO CALL OR WRITE.
WOULD BE THE END OF US.
BUT WE BOTH KNEW THAT LIV-ING APART ...
WE DIDN'T SAY IT.



I
FELT IT
MORE
THAN
ANYONE
ELSE
COULD.

MERRY CHRIST-MAS!
WE'RE BLAST!
I MISS THAT TIME.
SINCE REN LEFT ...
MY DAYS ARE SPENT IN A WALKING DREAM.
居酒屋

ESPE-
CIALLY
ON A
SNOWY
NIGHT
LIKE
THIS.
TRAPNEST
NEW SINGLE
WINTER GARDEN

NANA--
I GOT YOUR SELF-RELEASED CD! IT'S SO RAD!! NANA, YOUR SONGS CHEER ME UP AND INSPIRE ME. YOUR LYRICS REALLY SPEAK TO ME AS A GIRL. I WISH MORE PEOPLE COULD HEAR YOUR SONGS. BUT I MIGHT BE LONELY WHEN YOU GET FAMOUS. REN IS A ROCK STAR AND ALL THAT NOW... I'M HAPPY FOR HIM, BUT IT'S ALSO KINDA WEIRD... BUT IT'S COOL MAN, I'LL FORGIVE HIM (HEH HEH)! DO YOU GUYS KEEP IN TOUCH, NANA? PLEASE GIVE HIM MY BEST! AND MY BEST TO YOU TOO, NANA! I'LL ALWAYS, ALWAYS CHEER YOU ON.
AKIKO
P.S. LOVE THE NEW 'DO! ♡ MAYBE I'LL COPY YOU!
NANA From Misato
Merry X'mas NANA
SOME-ONE, PLEASE WARM THAT MAN.
ON A COLD NIGHT LIKE THIS...
SID & NANCY
LOVE KILLS

FOR MY 20TH BIRTH-DAY IN MARCH ...

I'M GOING TO REWARD MYSELF FOR HANGING IN THERE ...

... WITH A ONE-WAY TICKET TO TOKYO.

GUITAR AND CIGAR-ETTES, THAT'S ALL I NEED.
PACK THOSE BAGS

WHERE WAS I BORN?

WHAT ARE YA GONNA DO--
ASK ME?

JUNKO

——ジュンコ——

7F SNACK BAR
Junko's Place
WELL ALRIGHTY THEN, EVERY-ONE, COME ON IN.
DID YOU LIKE THE MANGA?
I THINK IT'S ALL RIGHT.
LIKE I CARE ABOUT NANA (KOMATSU'S) LIFE.
WE'RE JUST SIDE CHARAC-TERS, ANYWAY
JUN?!
WHERE ARE WE?
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
BUT THIS IS MY BONUS PAGE, SO I GUARANTEE IT'LL BE ENTER-TAINING.
SO, CHEERS!
OOHH...
IT'S A BONUS PAGE.
HOWDY, AND THANK YOU.
A KEGGER?
WHAT KINDA BONUS YA GONNA DO?
MAYBE WE SHOULD ASK THE READERS WHAT TO DO.
SO MAYBE THIS IS JUST A PREVIEW?
CURRENTLY UNDER CON-STRUCTION
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT IT SOUNDS COOL. I'LL HELP YOU JUN! ♡
OOOH!
HUH?
SO THIS MANGA ISN'T JUST A SINGLE RUN? IT'S NOT OVER?
RIGHT. COOKIE IS NOW A MONTHLY, AND NANA IS GONNA BE SERIALIZED.
SO YEAH, THIS ENTIRE MANGA WAS EITHER A FLASHBACK OR A PROLOGUE.

*Chapters of *Nana* are originally published in a Japanese magazine called *Cookie*. -ED

BUT WAIT!
OH!
THERE'S ALREADY TWO NANAS...
HEY, THIS COULD GET INTERESTING.
BUT THERE MIGHT BE DIFFERENT NANAS CONTINUOUSLY BEING INTRODUCED WITHIN THE SERIALIZED STORYLINE, RIGHT?
THANK YOU, DEMON LORD.
REALLY? COOL!
'CAUSE THE STORY THIS TIME WAS A PROLOGUE.
PROBABLY NOT...
IT COULD HAPPEN.
SNICKER
THAT NANA'S A MUCH STRONGER CHARACTER.
NANA by Nana
WHAT IF THAT'S THE "NANA" THAT GETS SERIALIZED?!
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO DO THE "PLEASE GIMME A BREAK" CORNER, BUT I DON'T WANNA.
WHAT TO DO...
WILL THE BONUS PAGE HAVE POSTCARDS FROM THE READERS LIKE IN "GOKINJYO" ("NEIGHBORHOOD")?
WHAT THE HELL'S THAT?
"NEIGHBORHOOD"?
WELL, IT'S FUN TO READ.
....
I LOSE OUT TO THE COOL GIRL ONCE AGAIN...
THIS COULD GET UGLY...
'CAUSE I'M CURSED...
I DIDN'T MAKE THE COVER OF THIS MANGA, EITHER.
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT PROBABLY WILL...
Cookie
REALLY?
LEMME SEE, LEMME SEE!
A BUNCH OF CHARACTER SKETCHES HAVE ALREADY COME IN.
"GIMME A BREAK"?
"COOKIE" COMES OUT EVERY MONTH. SO Y'ALL GO BUY IT!
IF IT SUCKS, IT FLOPS.

I HAVE A COPY OF "PARA-KISS." ♡
"NEIGH-BOR-HOOD STORY," DUH!
SO, WHAT'S "NEIGH-BOR-HOOD"?
JUST KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT.
HUH?
TA-DA!
George
BY MIDORI SUDO, TOKYO.
WELL ISN'T THIS NICE?
"PARADISE KISS."
A SPIN-OFF OF "NEIGHBOR-HOOD," SERIALIZED IN THE FASHION MAG "ZIP-PER."
"PARA-KISS"?
DON'T YOU KNOW? "PARA-KISS" GEORGE! YOU'RE PART OF THE SAME YAZAWA FAMILY.
MY FACE IS SOFT-ER...
BUT I'M SHOJI...
WHO'S THIS?
GEORGE...?
IS IT OKAY TO ADVER-TISE SOME-ONE ELSE'S BOOK...?
.....
...ASK THEM TO SPECIAL ORDER IT.
IF YOU CAN'T FIND IT AT THE BOOK-STORE...
IT'S IN THE A5 BOOK SIZE, A LIT-TLE BIGGER THAN THIS MANGA.
Paradise Kiss 1
WHAT?! THE FIRST VOLUME'S OUT?! I GOTTA GET IT.
IDEAS, ILLUS-TRATIONS, QUEST-IONS, IT'S ALL GOOD!
UM, IN THE MEANTIME SEND US POSTCARDS.
HERE'S THE AD-DRESS!
NANA C/O SHOJO BEAT
VIZ MEDIA
P.O. BOX 77010
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
94133
YO JUNKO, WE'RE OUTTA PAGES!
UH...
LET'S CALL IT A NIGHT?
...
THIS IS A BAD IDEA.
SORRY, EDITOR!
IT'S MY BAR, SO I CAN DO WHATEVER I WANT!

GRAND OPENING, NEXT ISSUE!! (PROBABLY!)

The creator, Ai Yazawa, told us, "I created this story so that it could be enjoyed as a stand-alone and, at the same time, have a complete ending that could be connected to an ongoing series. I hope you'll look forward to the future of the two Nanas!"

Ai Yazawa is the creator of many popular manga titles, including *Tenshi Nanka Janai* (I'm No Angel) and *Gokinjo Monogatari* (Neighborhood Story). Another series, *Kagen no Tsuki* (Last Quarter), was made into a live-action movie and released in late 2004. American readers were introduced to Yazawa's stylish and sexy storytelling in 2002 when her title *Paradise Kiss* was translated into English.

Nana has become the all-time best-selling shojo title from Japanese publishing giant, Shueisha. Cumulative sales from the first 12 graphic novels have sold more than 22 million copies, and the series even garnered a Shogakukan Manga Award in the girls category in 2003. A live-action *Nana* movie is scheduled to hit Japanese theaters in the fall of 2005.

NANA
VOL. 1

The Shojo Beat Manga Edition

This manga volume contains material that was originally published in English in *Shojo Beat* magazine, #1-2.

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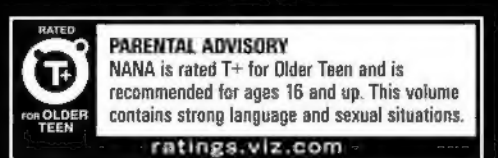
RATED
T+
FOR OLDER TEEN
PARENTAL ADVISORY
NANA is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains strong language and sexual situations.
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